THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 44.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXVIII. NUMBER 18.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, MAY 2, 1881.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH APRIL.

THE DARJEELING News has the following:

A planter living in the Terai has been recently fined Rs. 150 for an unprovoked assault on a native. At first sight this fine might seem excessive; but as the defendant had already been fined Rs. 80 for assaulting the same man some little time since, and had on the last occasion knocked him down and kicked him severely, simply because he had been fined, we think this specimen of the "fine old English gentleman" got off a very great deal more easily than he deserved.

We say ditto. When a heavy fine of Rs. 80 had no effect upon a man, a few days' recreation in a certain place might have produced better effect upon him.

THE SAME PAPER says: "The complaints that are now made against the way the Tramway illuses and smashes up baggage and goods in transit, and the total indifference of the Company to complaints and claims for compensation, are far louder and deeper than anything we ever heard in days gone by, when baggage and goods had to be brought the long journey via Caragola in rough country carts and over the many difficulties of that route." This is not creditable to the Tramway Company.

THE FOLLOWING STARTLING telegram from a Paris correspondent is going the round of the papers: "I am informed on the highest authority that the Sultan has proposed to the French Government to depose the Khedive, and replace him by any one the French Government may select. This was intended to destroy England's influence in Egypt. I further learn that the French Government peremptorily rejected the proposition, and informed the English Government of the Sultan's communication. The affair has caused great excitement among diplomatists here."

AN INTERESTING QUESTION was put in the House of Commons about Yakoob Khan, the ex-Amir, by Mr. O'Donnell, who asked the Secretary of State for India whether an opportunity would be given to the people of Kandahar of expressing their preference between the Ameer Yakoob Khan, now a prisoner in India, and Abdul Rahman, previous to the town and district being handed over by her Majesty's Government to the latter; whether, as Her Majesty's Government had declared their intention of refraining from further interference with the domestic politics of the Afghan people, the imprisoned Amir, Yakoob Khan, would be forthwith set at liberty and enabled to return to his country and supporters. The Marquis of Hartington said Yakoob Khan abdicated at the end of 1879. He was not now a prisoner, although he was under surveillance. The Government had no intention of assisting in the return of Yakoob Khan to Affghanstan, while they had declared their intention to refrain from further interference with the domestic politics of the country; they had also declared their intention of assisting, if possible, in the restoration of a settled government. Certainly, they did not contemplate taking any step which would inevitably have the result of increasing the anarchy which might be apprehended there.

WE HAVE received the following communication regarding the Serampore Municipality:

No candidates eligible for commissionership under the new rules were elected by the rate payers. Some nominations of old Commissioners qualified under the former rules were sent in, but the nominators were officially informed that the candidates named by them were not qualified under the new rules. The 28th February was the last day for nomination and the Chairman finding himself disappointed, applied for an extension of time which was granted up to the 31st March. This extension brought in 3 qualified members in Serampore under the new rules, out of 5 vacancies—two of whom are Mooktears, who practise in the Sub-divisional Kutchery, and who do not know English, and the other is a practising doctor (a former Commissioner) who has scarcely time to attend to municipal affairs, for he lost his appointment for not attending six meetings. The vacancy in the Rishrah and Mohesh Ward has not been filled up.

Your numerous readers will now see whether proper representation was made to the Government in the matter of the working of the elective system in Serampore and whether my proposition regarding the working of the Municipality under the elective system, which was carried at a meeting of the Commissioners, received that degree of attention and consideration at the hands of Government as the importance of the subject demanded. It is a pity that the big officials of Government do not care to abide by the resolutions passed by a body of gentlemen, as was done in the case referred to above. They have their own views and whims to carry out by which they have placed the Government of Sir Ashley Eden in a false position. There will, therefore, be no polling in Serampore this year, though there are vacancies. And what could be more ridiculous than this?

No reply appears to have been received from Government on the annual Administration Report. At least the Commissioners have not seen it. If any has been received, it has been withheld from the Commissioners. In the meantime, the assessment which was the subject of complaint in the Annual Report is being made by the principal inhabitants of each town in consultation with the local Commissioners (in accordance with a resolution passed by the Commissioners in November 1880), though theChairman recommended to Government in his report that the assessment should be made by an outsider.

Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, the temporary Magistrate of Hooghly, attended the Serampore Municipal Meeting on Saturday the 26th March. If the former Magistrates had followed his example, surely the Government of Bengal would have been furnished with a correct history of the working of the Municipality under the elective system. This is a good opportunity for Mr. Cotton to report on the elective system as he has seen with his own eyes what transpired at the meeting instead of depending upon paper reports like Messrs. Ravenshaw and Beames. Mr. Tremearne was proposed for election as Vice-Chairman for 1881-82, he declined the offer. He had sufficient reasons for doing so which he did not like to divulge before the meeting. The reason shewn by him was that he would live in Calcutta. At a special meeting which was convened under orders of the Government of Bengal with a view to effect a good understanding between the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, and held in December 1880, Mr. Beames the acting Commissioner and Mr. Cornish the acting Magistrate of Hooghly were present, they seemed to have spoken to Mr. Tremearne in a somewhat threatening language for not being loyal and submissive to the Chairman, and they asked him why he did not resign. He subsequently sent in his resignation, which the Commissioners at a meeting held in January 1881, declined to accept. Mr. Tremearne's outspokenness in the presence of three covenanted officers was praiseworthy, as the Chairman acted illegally in the matter of Konenaghur assessment, to dispose of which Sir Ashley Eden deputed Messrs Beames and Cornish to Serampore.

But how can Mr. Tremearne be loyal to the Chairman when the interests of the rate-payers are at stake? For example when the Chairman proposed last year that his sanction accorded to a contractor for light contract may be confirmed. Mr. Tremearne the Vice-Chairman, proposed an amendment in the interests of the rate-payers that tenders should be invited as provided in Act V of 1876 and his amendment was carried by a majority of the Commissioners. And what has been the result? Every half year brings in additional saving by reduction in the item of lighting expenditure. In September last the rate was reduced from 1-8 to 1-6 and in March last from 1-6 to 1-4 each lamp (total no. of lamps is 55). We are now gainers to the extent of about Rs. 165 per annum. And this officer whose services were so valuable was not vested with any powers by the Chairman for the last 3 years and neither the Commissioner of the Division nor the Government of Bengal thought fit to interfere in the matter.

Another instance of despotic power lately exercised by Mr. R. Carstairs the present Chairman.

At two Budget meetings of the Commissioners held a few months ago the pay of the Overseer which was Rs. 65, was proposed to be reduced to Rs. 35. This proposition was carried and the Chairman's (in favor of the Overseer) lost. The Overseer, a Christian, being negligent in his duties and the conservancy arrangements under his supervision being very unsatisfactory (for it is impossible to expect the coolies to work from morn to noon and again to water the roads from 3 o'clock for the sake of additional remuneration) the Commissioners, including the Vice-Chairman, were of opinion that it was useless to pay such a large sum specially, when the work could be performed by a competent man on less pay but the Chairman was offended at his proposition not being carried out and he took revenge by sending with the Budget Estimates, a transmitting letter, which the Commissioners never saw and the contents of which could be gathered from the following facts.

The Commissioner of Burdwan in forwarding the Estimate to Government remarked that in opposition to all common sense the Commissioners have proposed reduction in the pay of the Overseer and the Lieutenant-Governor while agreeing with the Chairman and the Commissioner requested the Municipal Commissioners to reconsider the subject.

On Monday the 28th instant a special meeting took place at which only 5 members were present (3 Government officers and the Chairman)—the meeting being convened at the Chairman's convenience.

The Chairman having proposed that the Overseer's pay be fixed at Rs. 65 as before, another member proposed that the subject of the Overseer's pay which was fully discussed at two meetings of the Commissioners be postponed as the number of Commissioners present that day was very small. The Chairman having declined to put this to the vote as he was sure of being outvoted, the same member proposed an amendment that the Overseer's pay be Rs. 35 as originally proposed and not Rs. 65 as proposed by the Chairman, but the Chairman's proposition was carried. The member whose amendment was lost, simply observed that the consenting members were Government servants. In doing this, the Commissioners have simply shewn respect to Sir Ashley Eden. (Under the authority vested by the Act the Lieutenant-Governor has full power to revise the Budget allotments), but His Honor would have acted rightly and impartially if he had asked the Chairman and the Divisional Commissioner as to the *reason, which induced* the Municipal Commissioners of Serampore to propose reduction in the Overseer's pay which is to be met from the rate-payers' money and in this case the representatives of the people should have more claim to be listened to than the Chairman who might be transferred from Serampore any day.

The Chairman proposed the issue of a ticket before each dead body was allowed to be burnt, but the Government has pooh-poohed the idea! It is ridiculous to think that any restriction should be put in connection with the burning of the dead, specially in such places as Mohesh, Bollubpore, Rishrah and Konenagur. There is no such restriction in such a town as Ootterparah and the reason is that the Chairman has not the power to interfere in the internal management of this Municipality as he has in Serampore.

TUESDAY, 26TH APRIL.

A GERMAN AUTHORITY thus dwells on the cause of the depreciation of silver: "Between 1871 and 1879 the entire production of silver amounted to 3,420 million marks; the India Council Bills to 2100 marks and the German sales to 600 millions. It is clear from this that Germany has not been an important element in the depreciation of that metal, which is almost entirely caused by the relations of the English Government to India." This is, however, not the general opinion.

IN 1877 there were prosecuted 198 Nihilists at St. Petersburgh of whom 82 belonged to the nobility, 19 were Government officials, 8 military men, 33 clergymen, 11 wealthy merchants, 23 professional men and tradesmen, and 17 peasants. Among those now implicated, nine-tenths are students, and a large proportion of the remainder belong to the Police itself.

A FURTHER report from Bagdad under date the 19th April states that no information of the progress of the plague at Najof has been received since the 7th and that Bagdad and Burreh continue healthy.

THE GRAPHIC, which has an engraving of the Bombay patriot, Gunesh Washudeo Joshi, has the following letter-press about the lamented deceased:

This Hindu gentleman, who was much respected by both Natives and Europeans, died of fever after 9 days illness on the 25th of July last. He was a true patriot and loved his people and country most fervently. He was the soul of the Sarvajanik Sabha of Poona, a large association which seeks the removal of Native disabilities and grievances and the recognition of native rights. Regarding the cultivators of the soil, as the most friendless class in the community, he was especially the friend of the ryot, and his advice was constantly sought by those Europeans who desired to help distressed natives. His energy and benevolence were equally unbounded and he thought nothing of running from one end of India to the other to advocate the cause of his countrymen. He was perhaps the man in Poona who could be least spared and who will be most missed.

THE JHUNG correspondent of the *Journal* of the Punjab Anjuman writes:

On Sunday last there was a great commotion among the Hindoos of this town (Maghiana) on account of kine slaughter having been committed within the town precincts by one named Pira butcher. Almost all the Hindus closed their shops, went to the Deputy Commissioner, and laid their case before him. At that time Munshi Mohammed Latif, Extra Assistant Commissionar, being there at hand, did his best to send them back, but they would not move. Captain Bartholomew Deputy Commissioner, with his usual promptitude, went to the spot, made some enquiry, and ordered the butcher to be apprehended.

ACCORDING to the Lahore *Tribune* the cattle fair at Amritsar was a great success. It is stated that 52,415 head of cattle were brought to the fair, and out of this number no less than 37,376 were sold. The number of oxen sold was 3,943, that of kine 7,023, buffaloes 12,393 and camels 842. The Horse-fair was not so great a success. Only 529 horses and 944 ponies were sold. The aggregate price of the 37,376 head of cattle sold was Rs. 620,432-15-3.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH APRIL.

THE TIMES OF INDIA learns from Indore that lately a *fakeer* entered the Durbar office there and tried to assault the Minister, Khooman Singh, C.S.I., with a sword. Full particulars have not reached our contemporary, but he is informed that the Minister had a tussle with his assailant and was not injured. The *fakeer* was arrested. It is said that a decision had been given against him in a civil suit, and that this was the cause of the assault.

THE SAME paper has the following:

Here is a piece of cheering news for the Legal Member of Council. "The Government of India is said to have sanctioned the grant of a bonus of Rs. 600 to Baboo Denonath Ghose, a graded assistant of the Financial Secretariat, in recognition of the special services rendered by him in preparing the

Revised Pension Code." The Government of India ought to give Mr. Whitley Stokes something handsome for preparing the revised Civil Procedure Code. That stupendous production is quite as valuable as penny-a-liner's "copy," and might be paid for at the same rate.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question, said that no doubt the Suez Canal shares purchased by the late Government could be sold if it were thought desirable, and if the sales were effected at this time the gain would be about £4,750,000 on the purchase price of the shares. So Lord Beaconsfield made a splendid bargain.

AT A RECENT MEETING of about two hundred students and members of the Council of the Edinburgh University a committee was appointed to take steps for raising a memorial to the late Thomas Carlyle, who was for some time Rector of the University. It was agreed that the memorial should take the form of a lectureship, the subject to be afterwards considered.

THE ITALIANS have at last taken possession of their new settlement on the Red Sea. Assab, as the place is called, is situated close to the Straits of Babel-Mandel on the west coast of the Red Sea. Our readers may remember that the occupation of Assab by an Italian trading company, some months ago, attracted much attention both in the European and Indian newspapers. The settlement has been such a great commercial success and its utility in other respects is so considerable, that the Italian Government have deemed it worth while to take possession of the station, by royal commission, and in the name of His Intalian Majesty.

THURSDAY 28TH APRIL.

WE ARE EXCEEDINGLY SORRY to learn that another domestic bereavement has befallen our excellent townsman Raja Rajendra Mullick. He has lost his third son. Within the last three years he has lost three sons successively. We cannot sufficiently express our regret that so much suffering should have been in store for such a good man. But we should remember that God afflicts him most whom he loves most.

ONE OF the most interesting features of contemporaneous political history in Europe is the rapid growth of parliamentary government. In France, in Italy, and in England there is a steady development of parliamentary institutions, while in Germany and in Norway and Sweden the representative bodies are continually pressing upon the privileges of the Crown. Nothing indicates more strikingly the political progress of the last decade than the fact that even in Spain political interest turns not upon the action of the King, but of the ministry. In Russia the cry is representative Government.

A CORRESPONDENT writes :

The Kushtea Agricultural Exhibition was opened on the 14th instant and closed on the 21st idem. At the meeting of the Executive Committee and the subscribers held for the inauguration of the exhibition a list of the articles of industry and produce selected for exhibition was presented. The articles themselves were placed in a show-room with transparent walls which could be seen through by the outside public. Amongst the articles of industry were (1) an earthen filter designed and constructed by a medical practitioner of Pubna ; (2) a terrestrial globe in Bengali characters ; (3) a couple of Santipore sarries embroidered by a zenana lady of Gossain Durgapore ; (4) an embroidered punkah and a woolen net-work by another native lady. Amongst the articles of agricultural products that were considered worthy of notice was a sugar-cane measuring 18 feet, a clump of sago palm measuring 8 feet in length, and some vegetables, bulbs and garden flowers &c. There were then distribution of prizes to school boys and learned pundits for their performances, gymnastics, athletic sports and races, alms giving and feeding of the poor. Of amusements, there were jattras, nautches, singing, and theatricals.

REFERRING TO the letter of our correspondent B and the communication from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the P. W. D. in the direction of the proposed railway from Dum Dum to Baraset another correspondent makes the following observations :

The proposal to make the line run by the east side of the Dum Dum Cantonment is ill-advised as the villages of Rajarhat and Bistopore are too far in the north east to benefit by the rail. But your correspondent B is not right in saying that the inhabitants of Badoo, Mohesserpore and other places want that the line may be made to diverge 400 yards towards the Jessore Trunk Road, and that they will derive facilities if A the site of the station were a few yards south and people from Badoo and other places take carriages to Calcutta at or near the Baraset Post Office. By diverting the line to the east of Baraset as the memorialists pray it will be taken nearly a mile to the east of Jessore road. The distance between the site suggested by your correspondent for the station and Badoo, Mohessurpore is nearly double of what he has given. It will be more convenient and easy to have the station at Chandipore than at the place near the Post Office. It is not a fact that people from Badoo take to their carriages at the junction opposite the Post Office. Notwithstanding what the Secretary said about the line being so laid out that it will serve all important villages, the fact is the villages and moujas through which the line passes are either purely agricultural or very sparsely peopled and are so unimportant that scarcely any body is aware of their existence. The diversion of the line to the east of Baraset is calculated to benefit the Cantonment as well as Rajarhat, Bistopore, Cadihatti, Gonripore, Majargram &c. The diversion will make the line pass through the maidan, take more elevated land and draw more goods and passengers ; thus there will be a reduction of cost of construction and increase of income. It will further increase the distance from the E. B. line which is desirable. If the line run by the east Baraset and the station be located at the site where it crosses the Thakoorpore road it will attract 200 additional passengers from the Atgram or 8 villages over and above which all the milk men from Anarpore will avail themselves of the railway for their journey to Calcutta. The Barraset station may be erected a few hundred feet to the east of the Kutchery at the junction of the Jessore, Taky, Krishnaghur and Barrackpore roads.

The diversion of the line as suggested by the memorialists will pass close to Dum Dum to the west and at the junction of the villages of Kadihatti, Bistopore and Bistopore and Rajarhat, passing by Sultanpore and Gouripore, crossing the Jessore road somewhere between Gouripore and Majargram, leaving the last named village in the west and passing by the east of Baraset and terminating somewhere new Kramkistopore say at Jajodighatta. A station at this place will benefit the important villages of Chottajangolea. The line will ultimately meet the track already surveyed at Duttopookar a station which will serve the inhabitants of that village as well as of Nabodo.

A SCANDALOUS case is reported in the *Behar Herald*. The case occured in the Patna city. It is stated that one Abdas Sobhan, a man, who was a servant of the family on Rs. 5 a month, lodged a complaint before the Magistrate that Massumat Kajo, the mistress of the family, had kept complainant's *nicka* wife in wrongful confinement. On enquiry it was found that there had been no nicka, though the alleged wife in collusion with the complainant said so ; the Deputy Magistrate held that the defendant as head of the family was quite justified in keeping under restraint Mas.nut Fosihan, the alleged wife, and denying access to the house to the complainant.

FRIDAY 29TH APRIL.

WE REPRODUCE the following from the report of a court martial lately held at Bombay. Captain Smith deposed—

What was general Nutall's state of mind between Maiwand and Ata Karez ?

Witness : Am I to answer that ; because I think it would not be to my interest to do so.

The President : You are on your oath.

Witness (after a pause) : I should say General Nuttal was non-plussed.

Did you think he was in a state to accurately to observe what was done and said ?—I should say not.

When you saw General Burrows brought in by the wordee Major, had he a cheroot in his mouth ?—Certainly not.

Did he borrow your pipe and tobacco at Ata Karer ? He did Sir.

Was General Burrows in a state during the retreat to accurately observe and recollect what was said and done in his presence ?—It appeared to me that General Burrows was dazed from the events of the day, and I don't think he could remember what actually occurred, and what had not occurred.

Bravo !

THE PIONEER says : "The dearth of Covenanted men was never so severe in these provinces. Promotion will probably go lower than ever it did before, but work will at the same time be heavier." Was there not a block in the North Western Provinces five years ago, and were not special measures taken to facilitate promotion ?

ENQUIRIES have been made of us why is not the judgment of the Chief Justice *in re* Mr. MacNair published in the daily papers. This is more than what we can say. We think the Attorneys' Association ought to obtain a copy of the judgment and publish it.

THE BOMBAY CORPORATION propose to petition the Secretary of State and Parliament on the subject of the enforced contribution from it in aid of the working of the C. D. Act. Referring to this move of the Corporation the *Indu-Prokash* remarks :

The Government of Bombay evidently feels annoyed that an institution of its own creation—the Municipal Corporation of this city—is trying to checkmate it and question its action. Our municipal body is resolved upon fighting the battle for elective franchise honestly and to the last and the resolution of the Government, withdrawing the Police grant because the Corporation refused to share the expenses of the C. D. Act, involves in it the principle, on which the security and permanence of the free growth of elective Municipalities in India depend. The Corporation intend petitioning the House of Commons on the subject. If they do so, we hope they will not omit to mention in the petition the important circumstances that "honest" friend of India, Sir Richard Temple, is responsible primarily for the present humiliation, to which the Bombay Municipality has been subjected.

We do hope that the Bombay Corporation will stick to its resolution.

THE BOMBAY GUARDIAN has the following :

Four intoxicated mariners belonging to H. M.'s steamer Jumna, hired a jollyboat the other night to go aboard of their vessel, and when half way there, threw the four native boatmen in to the sea, rowed the boat to their ship, when they turned her adrift and went on board. The men could swim, and were happily picked up by a dubash's boat before their strength gave way and before falling in with a shark. The four seamen of H. M. were convicted (of what ?) and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 30 each, and Rs. 10 each towards the cost of prosecution. We confess that this sentence takes us by surprise. It is a marvel and a mercy that none of the Native boatmen lost their lives, but the act of throwing four men overboard in the Bombay Harbour and at the midnight hour, does not seem to us one that can be safely treated as a freak to be condoned by a fine of three pounds.

So drunken seamen may go on with their pastime, if they are prepared to fork out thirty rupees fine. This is the way native life is secured from the wantonness of low Europeans !

THE FOLLOWING is the report of the hearing by the Insolvent Court of the application of Sreemutty Hurrimoni Devi whose arrest as a zenana lady has caused so much sensation among the Native community :

INSOLVENT came up for an *ad-interim* protection order. From what transpired on former occasions it appears that her husband is a lunatic, and she had the general management of all his affairs. A suit was instituted some time ago against her on the civil side of the High Court, and a decree obtained. Satisfaction not being entered on this decree, a warrant for her arrest was issued and duly executed, though she was a Zenana lady, she was brought up before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Wilson, who, on her failing to pay the amount of the decree, ordered her to be committed to jail. While in jail she filed her schedule and came up last week for a protection order, but the usual notices not having been served in time, protection was then refused, and she was remanded to jail again. On the present occasion, there being no opposition, and the notices having been served in due time, the application was granted.

Protection granted.

It would be seen from the above that this lady was needlessly subjected to so much degradation, hardship and trouble. If the Court had exercised its discretion, and instead of ordering the issue of the process against the person of the judgment-debtor had enquired whether she had property to satisfy the decree, her real circumstances would have come to light.

BY A STRANGE OVERSIGHT we forgot to notice that our well-known countryman Mr. Lalmohun Ghose has been elected an Honorary Member of the Cobden Club. This is the first time an Indian has been honored by the Cobden Club, and Mr. Lalmohun Ghose well deserves the honor.

SATURDAY 30TH APRIL.

WE OBSERVE that a Lady Superintendent for the Bethune Female School has been brought out from England. Is it at all advisable to place a person at the head of a native female school, when she does not know the vernacular and is not acquainted with Indian habits and usages ?

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of a book entitled "A Guide to Weights" compiled by Babu Ashutosh Banerjea, Accountant and Assistant Book-keeper at Messrs. Williamson, Magor & Co. The easiest method for the conversion of Avoirdupois Weight into Indian, Bazar and Factory Maunds and *vice versa* is adopted in this table-book. It is a useful book for mercantile establishments.

THERE WERE 298 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 23rd April of which 81 were from cholera, 9 from small-pox, 70 from fevers, 26 from bowel complaints, 18 from pthisis and asthma, 17 from convulsions, 21 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Thirteen children were still-born, 48 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year, 29 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. The deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races were 15. The average of daily mortality during the week was 44·5.

THE POST OFFICE authorities have sent us a circular to the effect that the Rodanow Manufacturing Company in America offering cheap watches for sale is a myth and that the advertisement regarding it is fraudulent. It is stated that the author of the advertisement is under arrest in the United States of America.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of the memorial to the Viceroy by certain companies and persons interested in the Coal trade of Bengal. The draft of the memorial is the same, which we noticed last week in connection with the report of the Raneegunj Coal Association.

WE GIVE the following telegrams received from the Press Commissioner's office :

Simla, April 23rd.—The force is proceeding into the Waziri country to enforce the submission of the Manakhel section of the tribe which still holds out. The troops marched to Kotkhirgi on the 21st and to Inudola on the 22nd. All well. The Kandahar rear guard reached Mundi-Hissar yesterday. Shams ud Din, Deputy Governor, with other Sirdars and Officials, accompanied the troops part of the way. Later reports from the Bheel tracts show a slightly improved condition of affairs. The Bheels of Mahi Kanta, Domgerpoor and Banswara are quiet, and there is no news of any fresh complications about Kherwarra.

25th.—The Waziri force marched to Hydurri Katch through the Sluchur defile on the 24th. The country is quiet, and it is expected that the Nana Khels and Mushak will submit. From Udaipur it is reported that the negotiations between the Bhils and the Durbar have concluded satisfactorily. The advance of the troops has been countermanded.

27th.—On 25th instant, the British force marched to Turan Chuna, five miles from Haidari Katch. On 26th a detatched column was to march to Mushak's residence and to rejoin the main column at Barwand.

The Bhils about Kherwarra are reported quiet.

28th.—A detached column marched on the 26th to Aspaleto Algud and there destroyed the cane and crops belonging to Mushak who has not yet surrendered. The column then returned to Barwand where the main force encamped six miles

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from Turan Cuna. No opposition was offered. The Mahsuds helped to destroy Mushak's property.

28*th*.—From South Afghanistan it is reported that the evacuation of the territory was completed on the 27. The march from Kandahar has been entirely uneventful. No difficulties occurred as to transport or supply; all the posts were left in charge of the Amir's officials.

THE TUNIS question, we observe, has been complicated by attacks made upon French military parties by a frontier tribe of Arabs. A French expedition is being sent to punish the outrage. The Italian papers complain strongly of the efforts of France to obtain supremacy in Tunis. It was generally believed that Italy would assist the Bey of Tunis against the French in the event of hostilities.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by the Government of India in regard to Bangalore in the territory of Mysore, which it is stated was assigned by an instrument dated 25th March 1881, free of charges, to the exclusive management of the British Government for the purposes of a cantonment, and over which the Maharaja of Mysore has resigned all jurisdiction. All law in force prior to that date shall be deemed in force now. All power conferred by such laws on the Chief Commissioner shall be exercised by the Resident for the purpose of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction. There shall be a Civil and Sessions Judge, a Magistrate and a second Magistrate. The Chief Judge of Mysore, except in proceedings against the British subjects, shall exercise the powers of a High Court.

THIS EVENING'S ENGLISHMAN has discovered the secret of correctly treating the people of Bengal. It says "KICK THEM FIRST AND THEN SPEAK TO THEM." *Age lat, pechoo bat.* It is so thoroughly gentlemanly to kick a whole nation before speaking to them that none can question its propriety. We congratulate the leading Anglo-Indian paper in Calcutta on having publicly laid down this sound principle of good conduct. Alas! that the churls of the nation should wince under the treatment!

WE HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals. 1. Review of the External Land Trade of British India for 1879-80. 2. Accounts of the External Land Trade of British India for three months, April to June 1880. 3. Memorial of some Coal Companies and persons interested in the coal trade of Bengal to His Excellency the Governor-General of India in Council. 4. Report on publications issued and registered in the several Provinces of British India during 1879. 5. The Statesman (London) for April 1881. 6. Messrs Thacker Sprink & Co.'s Literary Circular for March 1881. 7. Reports of the Jeypore Maharaja's College and the Institutions subordinate to it for 1879-80. 8. Fifteenth Annual Report of the District Charitable Society for 1880. 9. Life of Colesworthy Grant. By Peary Chand Mitra. 10. A Guide to Weights. By Ashutosh Banerjee. 11. Bunga Durshun No. 82, 1881. 12. Bandhuba, Nos. 11 and 12, Vol. V.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 24th April.—The Bey of Tunis has disclaimed all responsibility for any possible outbreak of fanaticism which may take place in his territory against foreigners.

25*th*.—The latest advices from Natal state that the demeanour of the Boers is causing anxiety. The Royal Commissioners appointed to arrange certain question in connection with the treaty of peace with the Boers assemble shortly.

25*th*.—The Native Christians of Algeria are excited, and reinforcements of 50,000 French troops are being sent to repress any insurrectionary movement.

26*th*.—Parliament re-assembled yesterday after the Easter Vacation.. Mr. Gladstone announced that he would in a fortnight move an address to the Queen to erect a monument to Lord Beaconsfield in Westminster Abbey. The House then resumed the debate upon the Irish Land Bill. Mr. Gibson denounced the policy of the Government. An acrimonious debate followed, and a motion for the adjournment of the House until 9 P. M., on Tuesday was agreed to as a tribute of respect to Lord Beaconsfield.

27*th*.—Mr. Gladstone has withdrawn the abolition of the duty on silver plate provided for in the budget. Mr. Bradlaugh re-entered the House of Commons this evening, when his removal was ordered and, after a long debate, he withdrew. The latest advices from Algeria state that the French expeditionary force is advancing, and that serious fighting has taken place on the frontier with the Khroumirs.

26*th*.—The funeral of Lord Beconsfield took place to-day at Hughenden, and was very largely attended. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cannaught and Prince Leopold were present besides all the Conservative leaders and the Marquis of Hartington and Sir Vernon Harcourt. News has been received that a French gun-boat has bombarded and destroyed the Tunisian fort at Tabarca, and afterwards landed troops there.

27*th*.—In the House of Commons last night Sir Stafford Northcote, introduced a motion that Mr. Bradlaugh should not be permitted to swear. The motion was agreed to by 208 against 175 votes. Messrs. Gladstone and Bright, who both took part in the discussion on the motion, voted with the minority. Mr. Bradlaugh, however, persisted in taking the oath, when his arrest was ordered, which he resisted until the House agreed to a motion of adjournment. Mr. Dillon threatens wholesale armed resistance against future evictions of tenants in Ireland.

29*th*.—In the House of Commons Lord John Manners on behalf of the Conservatives, gave notice of an amendment that, though anxious to remedy the Irish Land Act, the Ministerial Irish Land Bill only confuses, without settling, relations between landlords and tenants. A manifesto from the Catholic hierarchy demands material alteration in the Land Bill, and denounces the emigration facilities for which the Bill provides. The latest advices from the Transvaal state that the relations between the Boers and natives are strained.

30*th*.—A long discussion took place in the House of Commons last night relating to the opium trade. The Marquis of Hartington said that the Indian Government have been requested to consider the whole system with a view to make the connection of the Indian Government with the opium traffic less direct. The report of the committee of enquiry into the Indian Military accounts recommend the appointment of a permanent committee in London as a final revisional authority. In this recommendation Lord Hartington concurs.

Constantinople 23rd April.—Four of the Palace domestics have confessed to the murder of the late Sultan Abdul Aziz some four years ago. Their confession implicates several high officials.

24*th*.—Dervish Pacha has entered Prizrend, situated in Albania, near the Roumelian frontier. The Albanian League has collapsed.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 3rd May, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Electro-magnetism.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., on Wednesday, the 4th Inst., at 5 P. M.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S.J., C.I.E., on Thursday, the 5th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: "The Earth is in motion."

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Saturday, the 7th Inst., at 3 P. M.

Subject: Strontium and Calcium and their Salts.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 2, 1881.

THE REPORT OF THE RENT-LAW COMMISSION.

XXXVIII.

THE usefulness of representative bodies like the British Indian Association is markedly illustrated in the case of the Rent Bill. The intense interest which has been created in the Rent Bill among the landholding class has been not a little due to the exertions of the Association. The Government of Bengal, we must do it the justice to say, has from the beginning professed a laudable desire to consult public opinion before formally introducing the new Bill into the Legislative Council. It accordingly addressed the British Indian Association for an expression of opinion on the Bill. The first requisition of Government was received by the Association on the 9th July 1880, and the Committee of the Association lost no time in appealing to their constituents in the mofusil and others interested in land for an expression of their opinion on the subject. They addressed them as well as the Landholders' Associations in the interior a circular together with a synopsis, in both English and Bengali, of the changes contemplated by the draft Bill of the Rent Commission, inviting their co-operation and expression of opinion either through properly organized public meetings in their respective districts or by representations to Government. As many persons interested in the question were not conversant with English, the Committee suggested to Government the propriety of publishing the translations of the Report and the Bill of the Rent Commission in the vernaculars. The Government was pleased to comply with this request. A ready response was given to the appeal of the Association to the country. The Behar Landholders' Association took the lead and held a public meeting for the discussion of the subject. Their example was followed in other districts. The East Bengal Landholders' Association and the Rajshaye Association held meetings and criticized the Bill. Public meetings were also held in the districts of Hooghly, Nuddea, Backergunge, Mymensing, Chittagong, Dinagepore and Bhaugulpore. The Committee of the Association received from many landholders their individual opinions on the provisions of the Bill. The interest thus manifested was general and wide. In the meantime the Government of Bengal commissioned Mr. Reynolds to visit some of the most important districts and hold conferences there on the subject of the Bill. Accordingly Mr. Reynolds held conferences at Bankipore, Dacca, Hooghly, and one or two other places. It was given out at these conferences that the Lieutenant-Governor was not pledged to the Bill of the Rent Commission and that His Honor would be prepared to modify the provisions of the Bill in the light of the criticisms and suggestions that might be submitted to him. Believing, however, that it would simplify their labours if the Committee could obtain a statement of the views of His Honor, so far as they might have then been formed, as to the points to which he might wish to restrict the proposed legislation, they addressed a letter to Government dated the 9th December last, in reply to which Mr. Secretary Mackenzie indicated the course which the Lieutenant-Governor proposed to take with reference to the Rent Bill. Although it was stated that the Government "was not yet in a position to state precisely the modifications in the draft measure prepared by the Rent-Law Commision," still it was said generally that "the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt that it will be possible to simplify very considerably both the substantive and the procedure portions of the draft Bill." Accordingly certain important points were indicated, regarding which the views of the Lieutenant-Governor were generally stated and the opinion of the Association was also invited. On the receipt of this communication the Committee thought that the best way of dealing with it would be to consider the proposals of His Honor at a general conference of landholders, and they accordingly invited a Conference of landholders at the rooms of the Association, asking them to be present either in person or by delegates. Their invitation was readily responded to throughout the Mofussil. Almost all the districts were represented at the Conference. The Government came forward to assist the Conference in their deliberations by supplying them with copies of the Bill as revised by Mr. Reynolds together with an elaborate memorandum prepared by him. In communicating Mr. Reynolds' Bill and memorandum the Government informed the Association that "it is understood that the Lieutenant-Governor's orders have been taken on all the points touched upon in the memorandum but that the conclusions thus provisionally arrived at are open to reconsideration hereafter." The discussions of the Conference were chiefly confined to the Bill and memorandum of Mr. Reynolds.

The idea of the Conference was thoroughly practical. A monster meeting as had been originally contemplated would have been doubtless very largely attended, and as a demonstration would have been effective. But what was wanted was calm deliberation and not grandiloquent speechification, and at a crowded public meeting there is little room for such deliberation. The Conference sat from time to time for three weeks and carefully discussed the provisions of the new Bill *seriatim*. The opinions of the Conference are set forth in a letter of the Association covering 29 pages of foolscap.

The Association at the outset remark: "It could hardly be expected that in matters of such vital importance as the amendment of the Rent-Law involves there should be perfect unanimity of opinion on all points. Customs, usages, and experience differ in different districts, and it is therefore not at all unnatural that under such varying circumstances particular points should be viewed variously by different landholders. It would be tedious and unprofitable to give in detail the various opinions on different questions expressed at the Conference. The Committee therefore prefer to submit to Government the conclusions arrived at by the majority on the different provisions of draft Bill no. 2. The Conference in considering the Bill, gave the fullest attention to the remark of Mr. Reynolds, that "the Bill now put forward should not be subjected to merely destructive criticisms." They have made suggestions on points, which they think admit of alterations or improvement, but where in

their humble opinion no changes are needed, or where the changes made are unjustifiable or injurious innovations, it has not been possible for them to make suggestions, they have been obliged to content themselves with a mere statement of their reasons against these innovations." In the first place the Association protest against the manner in which the proposal to amend the Rent-Law has been conceived and carried out. They remark :

The first question discussed by the Conference was the necessity of the Bill. They are unanimously of opinion that no occasion whatever has arisen for a radical alteration of the substantive law. Many as were the changes introduced by Act X. of 1859 and since reproduced in Act VIII. of 1869 B.C., not a few of which were opposed to both the letter and spirit of the Permanent Settlement Regulations, and to the judicial interpretations of the same, they have become a part and parcel of the law of the land, and numerous transactions have taken place in all parts of the country under the authority of that law. To alter the substantive law again in the way proposed would be not only to shake the basis of property thus acquired, but to unsettle still more the relations subsisting between landlord and tenant, to bring in discord where there is harmony, and to show the seeds of ill-will and antagonism, where there are now good will and peace. It has been a received maxim in legislation that no change in law should be made unless there was an absolute and well ascertained necessity for it ; such necessity should be expressed by the general sense of the people, by a deeply and widely felt want, by some administrative difficulty or by some exigencies in the social economy of the country. No such conditions, however, exist for a change in the substantive Rent Law of Bengal. Until the Government had led the way as it were by the appointment of the Rent Commission not a voice had been heard calling for a change in the law. No want or wish was expressed for such a change. Not a single instances occured of the administrative machinery coming to a dead-lock in the absence of such a change nor has the progress of Social economy received any check from want of such a change. If the Government had any doubt on these points, it might have instituted a proper and organized local enquiry by taking the evidence of competent persons on the subject. Instead of appointing a Commission to amend the Rent Law, it might have charged it to enquire into and report on the necessity for the desired amendment of the law. In the United Kingdom, as indeed in all other civilized countries, such enquiry generally precedes legislation, but unhappily as regards this momentous land question of Bengal, which affects millions of people, and interests hundreds of millions of sterling worth, execution has preceded enquiry, a foregone conclusion has taken the place of unbiassed investigation, assumption that of logical deduction.

We will take a future occasion to notice the observations of the Association on the different provisions of the Bill.

THE INDIAN ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Baxter, M. P. for Montrose has laid the people of this country under a deep debt of gratitude, by drawing the attention of the House of Commons to the expenditure on the Indian Ecclesiastical Department. Mr. Baxter in his place in Parliament recently asked the Secretary of State for India whether "inquiry had been made as to funds supplied by the general taxation of India and spent in paying salaries of Chaplains ; not for officers in the service of the Queen only, but for planters and merchants and persons wholly unconnected with the Government." He particularly wanted to know "whether, notwithstanding the promise of the Indian Government to revise and reduce this expenditure, fresh Chaplains had recently been appointed to stations where there were few or no officials ;" and whether the Secretary of State "would send out instructions to the Governor-General to take vigourous measures for removing all just cause of complaint in this matter." The Marquis of Hartington, in reply to Mr. Baxter's question, stated that the number of Church of England Chaplains in India is 160, of whom 30 or one-fifth of the whole number are at stations where there are no European troops. His Lordship added :—" Chaplains are not provided for soldiers only ; Civil Servants of the Crown, as well as military servants are entitled to the services of Chaplains. It appears from the return already quoted that the military servants occupy four-fifths of the whole number of Chaplains. The Government of India do not appear, so far as I can ascertain to have paid sufficient attention to their promise to revise the expenditure, and I propose to call their attention to the subject."

Now that this important question has been referred to the Government of India, we earnestly hope Lord Ripon and Major Evelyn Baring will consider it in a thoroughly fair and impartial spirit. We know that His Lordship labours under a great disadvantage in dealing with the expenditure on the Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment. The bulk of that expenditure is incurred for the benefit of persons belonging to the Protestant persuasion, while Lord Ripon is a member of the Romish Church. Such being the case, any action which His Lordship may take in reducing the cost of the Ecclesiastical Establishment is sure to be attributed to unworthy motives. But no such consideration should deter a high-minded nobleman like our present Viceroy to do his duty to the teeming millions of India. If he acts with pure motives, he can afford to laugh at the idle denunciations of his enemies. It would be a confession of weakness, if Lord Ripon were to shrink from doing a duty, merely because his motives for doing it might be misconstrued. If the Viceroy should consider the question in an unbiased spirit, he could not but come to the conclusion that it is impossible to conceive of a greater wrong to the people of this country than the maintenance of the Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment. It is indeed, a serious blot on the British administration of India. The expenditure onthe Ecclesiastical Establishment is for the benefit of a handful of Christians. The entire Christian population of India, including Native converts, Eurasians and the British, is something over a million souls. This is, of course, exclusive of the army. Of the total civil Christian population upwards of eight lakhs are Roman Catholics, the number of Protestants being a little above three lakhs. Again, less than one-half of the total number of Protestants belongs to the Church of England. We have not included the army in these figures as its case requires separate treatment. Through the agency of the defunct Indian Disestablishment Society a census of the church-going population belonging to the Protestant Churches in Calcutta was taken on a Sunday in February 1875. "The result," we quote from the Report issued by that Society, "that the attendance of the morning service of all the Protestant Churches in Calcutta was 2,595, and that of this number 1,273 attended the Churches in which chaplains officiate, and 1322 attended churches where ministers receive no aid from Government. In the evening, the number attending Chaplain's Churches was 1,618, and those of Ministers not aided by Government, 2341. It is to be observed, however, that a very large proportion of those attending the Chaplain's Churches were boys and girls connected with schools under Government and Chaplain's control. Only in one State Church did the Military (for whom alone some think Chaplains should be provided) attend *viz.*, the Fort Church and at that Church there were in attendace 200 soldiers, besides officers. There were in all 10 Chaplains in Calcutta, exclusive of the Bishop and the Archdeacon. It was further observed that the great majority of those who attended the State Churches were of richer and higher classes who might be supposed to be all the more able to support their own ministers, while those attended the self-supporting Churches were of the middle and poor classes". It is for these rich people who squander thousands of rupees in luxuries of various kinds that the British Government provides gratuitous spiritual ministrations at the cost of the Hindu and Mahomedan cultivators and day-labourers, who find it so very hard, with their scanty earnings, to keep their body and soul together. Lord Hartington admits that one-fifth of the whole number of Chaplains are at stations where there are no European troops. His Lordship says that civil servants of the Crown are entitled to the services af Chaplains. The civil servant who is a Roman Catholic or a Protestant Dissenter is not provided with spiritual ministrations at the expense of the tax-payer. Why should the Government servant, who happens to be a member of the Established Church of England, alone enjoy an advantage which is denied to his brethren of other persuasions ? There is certainly no reason or rhyme in this. The civil servant, who is a member of the Church of England, should make his own arrangements for providing for his spiritual wants in the same manner as Catholic and Dissenter civil servants do. The injustice of maintaining Chaplains for a very small fraction of the civil servants is manifest ; and the posts of the thirty Chaplains who are at stations where there are no European troops should at once be abolished.

There are some who think that the Government is bound to provide for the spiritual wants of the British soldier in the same manner as for his physical necessities. These thinkers go so far as to maintain that the maintenance of the Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment can be justified for the same reasons which justify the existence of the Army Medical Department ; and that those who object to the Ecclesiastical grant in the Indian Budget might cavil with as much reason at the grant for Medical Services. But there is no complete analogy between the Ecclesiastical Department and the Army Medical Department. If it is desirable to improve the morals of the British soldier in the same way as his physique, the argument applies to the Native soldier with equal force. Why should then Government, it might be asked, provide religious ministrations for the former and not for the latter ? Why should the spiritual wants of one portion of the Army be carefully supplied and those of the latter utterly neglected ? Can the distinction which the Government makes between the two classes of its soldiers be justified ? Even admitting, for the sake of argument, that the spiritual wants of the British soldier should be provided for at the expense of the tax-payer, it should be considered whether the expenditure now incurred for this purpose is not unnecessarily large. The Church of England absorbs more than three-fourths of the total Ecclesiastical grant in the Budget. The Church of England Chaplains draw more than twelve lakhs of rupees ; while the poor Roman Catholic Chaplains are allowed only 2½. The maximum pay drawn by a Roman Catholic Chaplain is only Rs. 300 per mensem ; while a Senior Chaplain of the Church of England is allowed no less than Rs. 800 per mensem. After what has been stated above, what reasonable and unprejudiced man can deny that the Indian Ecclesiastical Department as at present constituted, does not involve a gross wrong and palpable injustice to the non-Christian population of India, who contribute the bulk of the revenues of the Empire ? The opium revenue stinks in the nostrils of some moralists in England. Do not these excellent men, we ask, find anything wrong in the maintenance of the Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment at the expense of the Hindu and Mahomedan tax-payers ? We pause for a reply.

THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

THE time is approaching when the present incumbents of the provincial Governments of the Bengal Presidency, we mean Bengal, the North Western Provinces, the Punjab, and the Central Provinces will lay down the seals of their offices. But we believe it is generally understood that Sir Ashley Eden will not be called upon to retire till October 1882, if he does not consent to a further extension of the term of his office. He acted for six months as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, when Sir Richard Temple was sent on deputation to Madras and Bombay, and was absent from his post for another six months when he was President of the Army Commission. These two periods do not properly speaking fall within the period of his service as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and he is therefore entitled to have the twelve months added to the usual term of his service as Lieutenant-Governor, but we believe it is wholly untrue that Sir Ashley Eden has moved in the matter. We may observe that there is no rule in existence requiring the Lieutenant-Governor of an Indian Province to vacate his office after five years. In several instances a Lieutenant-Governor has served for more than five years and in others for less than that period. Sir William Muir had for instance we believe an extension of two years. Sir Ashley Eden is in the prime of life, and is quite able to render service for a few years more, and it will be decidedly in the interests of the public service that he should be asked to hold on some time longer. On the other hand, we believe, neither Sir George Couper, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-

Western Provinces, nor Sir Robert Egerton, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, wants to stay longer. Both of them we believe go out in January next, and rumour has already named their successors. It is said that Mr. Lyall, the Foreign Secretary will succeed Sir George Couper, and that Mr. Aitchison will take the placeo f Sir Robert Egerton. No question is raised about the fitness of Mr. Aitchison to the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjab. He stands at the top of the competition-wallahs and is undoubtedly the ablest man among them. He began service in the Punjab, and the land of the five rivers therefore claims him as her own. He is an officer of very great ability, administrative tact, and vigour, and high character. Politically the Punjab is a province of great importance. It is the gate to India from the North, and it is the duty of the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab to watch that gate. Mr. Aitchison is peculiarly fitted for that task. He is well acquainted with the frontier tribes, who people our borders Mr. Aitchison first came to notice as Under-Secretary to the Foreign Department. Lord Canning, who saw his work, was very favourably impressed by his knowledge, ability, and grasp of mind, and we believe his Lordship had minuted that though he could not immediately appoint him to the responsible post of Foreign Secretary because of his then standing in the service, his Lordship hoped that his claims will be taken into consideration in proper time. And Mr. Aitchison had not long to wait. As the author of the "Treaties" he is thoroughly acquainted with the history of the political relations of our Government with the Native States, and his profound knowledge was a source of material help to the Government of India in its dealings with those States. He is not an advocate of a "forward" policy; he counselled patience and moderation; and the prevention of hostilities with Affghansthan at the time of Lord Northbook was not a little due to his advice and influence. But he did not suit the aggressive views of Lord Lytton, and he was therefore obliged to retire from the Foreign Office. He was relegated to British Burma, where as was expected he did very well. We congratulate the Punjab on the acquisition of such a man as its responsible ruler. Public opinion is by no means so much pronounced in favour of Mr. Lyall. He too is a very able man. He is intellectual, and takes a pleasure in literary pursuits. He has studied India with a philosophic eye, but we doubt whether he is strong in practical politics.He is believed to be too tenacious of his opinions, and to be not quite in unison with the progressive spirit of the age. As for administrative ability we must confess he has not had sufficient opportunities to give fair evidences of it. He may for aught we know to the contrary agreeably disappoint his critics, but as an administrator he is as yet a dark horse. Mr. Hume or Mr. Bernard, it is thought in many quarters, would make a successful Governor of the North-Western Provinces. Mr. Hume is somewhat crotchetty, but he has large experience of the North-Western Provinces. Mr. Bernard is a hard-working, steady, and practical administrator. Mr. Morris we believe also goes out next year. Mr. Bernard has the best claim to the Central Provinces, but we believe he is as well off in British Burma as he would be in the Central Provinces. If he does not come, Mr. Grant, the present Home Secretary, has the next best claim to the Chief Commissionership of the Central Provinces. He has a thorough knowledge of those provinces, and the judicial cast of his mind well qualifies him for the high office.

Next year will thus see changes in the personnel of the several provincial Governments comprised in the Bengal Presidency. The time has not arrived for a review of the work done by the several provincial Governors, who will go out next year. They are doubtless preparing to render a final account of their stewardship.

THE FUTURE OF INDIA.

IT is the misfortune of India that any person, who can put two sentences together in English, considers himself competent to unweave the tangled web of its politics or guide its destiny. This is the reflection suggested to our mind by a perusal of a pretentious paper in the March number of the *Contemporary Review* by Mr. Herbert Taylor entitled "the Future of India." This writer begins by throwing ridicule upon the criticisms of "light-hearted observers, who spend four or five months in the country, and who then return to England to pour fourth gaily a flood of knowledge, deceptive and harmful because rooted in ignorance." For himself he says he gives his views, "in no boastful spirit and under no authority save that of personal conviction, based on lengthened experience." And what is the outcome of the observations of this "experienced" writer?—a mass of ill-digested platitudes, illiberal sentiments, and ill-concealed dislikes. There is scarcely one scintillation of genuine and profound thought on the many pregnant questions he touches upon. Mr. Herbert Taylor himself says: "India is a country eminently unfortunate in its critics. It is a country that every tyro thinks he has a right, not to mention the power, to criticize; and though there have been and are many critics other than these, men who have been eminent in India and who feel as if the country is half their own, yet these are but too apt to think the refutation of the grossest misstatements beneath them, and the tyros have therefore succeeded in attracting most of the public attention and have thus wrapped and prejudiced the public judgment." And though Mr. Taylor may not consider himself a "tyro," his criticisms shew that he is worse. In the first place he cries down high education. He says: "It may sound illiberal,—and no doubt many present-day reformers will characterize as such the recommendation of a somewhat reactionary policy as regards education,—but the fact that Indian questions must be judged solely on their own merits, and independently of what may be the pre-conceived notions of critics of the wisdom or folly of a given course of action, is brought to light most prominently by this very question. In Western countries the object of education, speaking generally, is that the subject of it may maintain, or possibly improve, his status in life, that he may be ready to avail himself of all the chances that life offers and not be left behind by his contemporaries; and this without being educated for any special career or profession, but as the best general means adapted to a general end. In India the case is different. It may be said with perfect truth that the object in view for every boy that is sent to school in India is that he may obtain an appointment of some sort in the Government service. Were it not for this inducement it is probable that education in India would fail from want of pupils, ignorance being no disgrace, and the custom being for the young generation to be brought up to the trades of their fathers, the methods of which are unmechanical and rude. The proof of the high inducement offered by the Government service lies in the fact that for any appointment that falls vacant the applications are numbered by scores. And the mediocrity of the appointment or the hopelessness of the application is no bar to this. For the post of a punkah-puller on five shillings a month may be received a dozen applications, expressed in admirable English, all terminating with the orthodox remark that, "for this act of goodness the petitioner will as in duty bound ever pray for your honor's long life and prosperity." And as the salary of a vacant post improves so do the number and condition of the applicants, so that for £15 a year you may have to choose among the rival claims of several youths who, by a refinement of irony, have been educated up to the degree of a Bachelor of Arts. And this constantly-increasing mass of educated humanity finds for itself no other outlet. Appointments are comparatively few, vacancies fewer, while year by year universities, colleges, and schools turn out by thousands, like bricks from a mill, students cast in the same mould. The successful few even are not content; they had formed great expectations and have to be satisfied with small fulfilment: while the unsuccessful many form an ever-growing class of hungry hangers-on, men who have been educated out of the occupations of their forefathers, who are the worry of over-worked officials, and whose only outlet for their induced energy is press-writing of a fantastic, deformed, and seditious type. A great mass of discontent thus formed cannot but have its influence on the future, and that influence, though not a dangerous one at present, may very well become so." So India is the only country where boys go to school to qualify themselves as bread-winners; in other countries boys go to school only to become philosophers. We dare say Mr. Taylor or his guardians who sent him to school were above such a mean and grovelling spirit. Then this "experienced" writer informs the English public that English education has become so general and so perfect in India that "for the post of a punka-puller on five shillings a month may be received a dozen applications expressed in admirable English." Bravo! What next and next? And lastly we are told that the "only outlet for the induced energy" of the educated natives "is press-writing of a fantastic, deformed, and seditious type." And this is the man constitutionally fitted to mould the future of India! Mr. Herbert Taylor then goes on:

> A plea that is put forward in favour of advanced education by many Indian philanthropists, and one that has found expression in even the very highest quarters, is that, as culture gradually makes its way among the natives, they can be admitted more and more to the various departments of government, and that by degrees some of the highest posts of the Administration, the care of districts, even of provinces, and perhaps eventually, at the millennium of philanthropy, that the empire itself may be handed over to self-government. The question of how such changes are best suited to England's interests will be noticed presently; it is sufficient to remark here that, for such purposes and with such an object in view, it may fairly be doubted whether, the course of education adopted is the best that could be devised—whether, for instance, a hybrid acquaintance with English literature and the classics is of much value to a prospective *tahsildar* subordinate judge, or overseer. It may also be observed, with regard to this proposed gradual transfer of power to the native officials, that those who recommend it act in direct opposition to the opinion of the great majority of officials engaged in the actual administration of the country—the men, that is, who know the natives most intimately. Any one who maintains this latter view has, I am well aware, to be prepared to be told that he is a member of the most ignorantly prejudiced class in the world, and instances are held up to him of Provinces, administered solely by natives, that are patterns of well-managed States. So is England a well-managed State to the ignorant observer; so is India; so are many other imperfect things seemingly perfect to the untrained eye. For instance, a member of the Indian Famine Commission said to the writer some time ago: "What is your difficulty in administering famine relief? you have in your village officials the most admirable and reliable organization in the world." Ask a Madras Famine Officer what *he* thinks of this admirable organization.

So according to this man of "experience," the natives should remain hewers of wood and drawers of water!

The writer touches upon the Public Works Department and the only remark which he makes on this subject and which is worth reproducing is this: "That public works and finance are intimately allied is a very obvious fact, and it may be urged that a temporary suspension of activity in the former is an inevitable sequence of confusion, caused by muddled accounts and aggressive wars in the latter." Regarding finance he is equally profound. He writes: "It is only necessary to observe that though taxation now presses somewhat hardly on a portion of the poorest, the labouring classes, yet that, taking the community as a whole, it is light, and that the great native traders and merchants, who form the richest class, scarcely contribute to the revenue at all. From them a very large sum might with justice be demanded, and the question of the future therefore is, how to tap this source of revenue? An Income Tax has been tried and has failed; and the present Profession Tax scarcely fulfils the necessary conditions. But it must evidently be within the capacity of financial genius to devise some measure that will be equitable and successful, and, once this revenue becomes available, the taxes that now press most hardly on the poorer classes may be lightened or removed, all ground for complaint will be cut away, and the Indian revenue will be found elastic enough to meet all the requirements of a growing empire." He has nothing more to say on this all-important subject. As regards the foreign policy he solemnly says, "it is a somewhat dangerous subject." He raises the question of the Affghan war and the occupation of Kandahar, but gives no opinion upon it. He would annex Burma, but falters. He says: "The British flag has been insulted and the British envoy compelled to vacate Man-

dalay, while the trade of Upper Burmah is suffering grievously from the insecurity felt by English traders. What is the outlook there? What is ever the prospect when a great, a powerful, a civilized nation is compelled by force of circumstances to interfere in the affairs of its barbarous neighbours? What is the teaching of history? We may pull down, but to build up again is beyond our power. And if we cannot reconstruct, then comes the only alternative, that of annexation; an alternative that has been freely proposed and supported by powerful arguments with reference to Burmah, but one that is faced with the utmost reluctance and dread by every thoughtful observer." He would abolish or very largely reduce the Native army, and sweep away the troops of the Native princes. And lastly he would acknowledge and announce the fact that "India is held by England for England." He would of course be "just" "kind," but "firm." He says: "Let there be no false hopes held out and no dangerous dallyings allowed with independent princes. That we are in India and intend to remain there, let so much be clearly understood. This is the first factor of our politics, and after it let the end of the Governmet be to make the people as prosperous as possible." Yes, the motto should be—"India for England" and God for the rest!

THE FIRST VENTURE OF THE ROMANIZERS.

There is evidently a split in the camp of the Roman Akshara Sabha. The members cannot agree with their Secretaries as to the scheme to be adopted for the unhallowed task of destroying the various Indian alphabets, the so-called "worthless remnants of a bygone civilization." A majority of the Society seems to be for one scheme, and the Secretaries are for another; and, the spirit of accommodation and compro nise being wanting, the latter have launched their skiff on their own personal responsibility. This is much to be regretted; for in the arduous task of uprooting so many national alphabets, endeared by the association of ages, and the repositories of every thing that helps the native members of the Society to claim a higher position in the scale of civilization than that of Dhangars and Sontals, and of recasting a dozen different literatures, united action would have been somewhat more effectual than a disjointed one. The skiff appears in the form of a Romanised version of Babu Bankimchandra Chatterji's popular novel, the *Durgesanandini*. The Secretaries are Mr. J. F. Browne, B. C. S., and Babu Haraprasad Sastri, M. A., and, in a short Preface annexed to the book, they justify the action they have taken. They say, "we certainly would not have ventured to differ in this particular from the views of our more learned friends, had it not been owing to the firm belief on our parts that the omission of, so to speak, *redundant* diacritical marks is essential to the true progress of the cause which both they and we are advocating." This is, however, not quite frank. The question at issue is not the retention or rejection of *redundant* marks, but the determination of what are really redundant, and what are not so; and to solve it by putting forth a charge of obstinacy against the Sabha, formed principally of native members headed by Pandit Mahesachandra Nyayaratna, is, to say the least, not fair. With all our respect for Mr. Browne as a well-educated Englishman, a lawyer, and a distinguished member of the Bengal Civil Service, we are bound to say that he is no judge of the sounds of Indian words; and we shall not be at all surprised to find him break down completely in pronouncing some of the peculiar Indian sounds. We remember a former Director of Public Instruction, who tried 20 times, in our presence, to pronounce the letter ঙ, and ended by saying that there was no difference between ঙ and ঢ়; and what was the case with him is, we believe, the case with 99 out of every 100 Europeans. And such being the case, it is hard to believe that in determining Bengali sounds Mr. Browne is right and Pandit Mahesachandra Nyayaratna of the Calcutta Sanskrit College is wrong. But the Pandit, who from a curious idea of patriotism, or from some other cause, was ready to annihilate his national alphabet and bastardise and emasculate his mother tongue, has already done his work, and is therefore now flung aside like a squeezed lemon. We cherish no sympathy for his attempt to betray his mother tongue; but we cannot help noticing how he has been dealt with. Babu Haraparsad Sastri, who is a vernacular teacher at Hare School, was once a pupil of the Pandit, and has done nothing yet to show that he has eclipsed his master. Anyhow, his authority in matters of Bengali idiom and pronunciation can count for very little. It is not remarkable that under the circumstances the scheme got up by the editors should be a total failure. It is to begin with not English. There is not a single instance in which c in English stands for ch; but the Editors recommend and have used c for ch; only as Babu Bankim Chandra Chatterji could not tolerate the idea of his name appearing as Bankim Candar, an exception has been made in his favor. We wonder if there be any single Englishman unsophisticated by Mr. Browne who will read Candar as Chandra or ch as চ. The Bengali য is represented by j, except in certain combinations, when it is to be y. It must follow that our familiar peacock, *mayur*, will be converted in the writings of the Romanisers into *majur* "a cooly," not to advert to the scientific precision and simplicity acquired by having two letters to do the work of one. The same evil occurs in ব, which is sometimes to be equal to b, and sometimes to v. The two letters o and y when standing side by side are to be changed into w. Other vagaries are not wanting; but we have no space for them. We are told that the "publication has been undertaken with the twofold object of ascertaining, firstly, whether oriental works could be reprinted in Roman character directly from vernacular editions; secondly, whether the number of diacritical marks could be materially reduced;" and that in both respects "the experiment has proved a perfect success." As regards the first point experiments were tried five-and-forty years ago, and the result was even more successful than the present; labour therefore has been wasted in proving what none for a moment questioned, and what was well known to be a proved fact. Had the Chinese character been used, instead of English letters, the result would have been equally satisfactory. The second is open to question. Apart from the unintelligibility of the text we find that on page 2 there are 167 diacritical marks in 35 lines, or 5 marks per line. With this ratio before us we can scarcely subscribe to the remark that "the number of dotted letters is very small." It is true that the Editors have anticipated our objection by saying "accents are part and parcel of the Roman alphabet," but we decline to admit the accuracy of this statement. The accents are not part and parcel of the English alphabet, with which alone we are concerned. Twenty pages may be read consecutively of any standard English book without meeting a single accent anywhere. Forty pages of the last *Nineteenth Century* does not show a single accent. We may, however, have been blinded by what the editors call our "Romanophobism," we leave therefore our readers to judge how far we are mistaken. Ordinarily a good test of success is the readiness with which people buy a new book, but in the present instance that would not be conclusive, for if the people do not buy, it would not be difficult widely to distribute copies gratis, and thereby readily to exhaust the edition. One promise held out in favor of romanisation was that Roman letters would make our literature cheap. This is, however, not to be. The editors say that the printing has been done at a "moderate expense." This may be the case, for it has been printed at the Government of India Central Press, where no profit is made. Were it otherwise, still the word "moderate" is a delusive one, and conveys no accurate idea. As a matter of fact the Bengali text in large type extends to 220 pages, 12mo., whereas the same matter in long primer has taken up 173 pages 8vo., or line for line 5720 lines of Bengali has covered 6228 lines in English letters. If one-fourth be added for the shortness of the Bengali lines in 12mo. the difference would amount to 30 per cent. Printing in English all over India is dearer than in Bengali, but, assuming the rate to be the same, the adoption of the Roman letters will make Bengali books 30 per cent. dearer. With types of the same face the cost of Romanised books would be 50 per cent greater. We doubt if this be a desirable innovation.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

We are glad to observe that the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce is putting pressure upon Government on the Silver question. It lately addressed a memorial to the Premier on the subject. In a previous memorial the Chamber had stated that "they believe that the depreciation in the value of a metal which is in universal use for monetary purposes has invested its fall with an importance and interest of world wide concern, and that the very serious consequences arising out of it are deserving of the early and careful consideration of our own Government and the Governments of all other countries concerned." And they accordingly prayed "that Her Majesty's Government will take into early consideration the desirability of convening an international conference, with the view of considering the whole question." In 1879 the Council of the Chamber being of opinion that the continued mercantile and manufacturing distress was largely caused and intensified by the discrediting of Silver as money, appointed a Special Committee of the Chamber to inquire and report as to what remedial measures ought now to be adopted, so that Silver may again perform, internationally its proper function as money. The Committee made the following recommendations:—1st—"That a fixed ratio between Gold and Silver, in conjunction with unlimited freedom of mintage and the recognition of the two metals as full legal tender money, would, if adopted by the majority of the leading monetary powers, including England, and India, be adequate to restore Silver to its former international value as money." 2nd—"That it is desirable that our Government should adopt measures for securing an International Agreement, by which Silver may be restored to its legitimate share in providing metallic currency sufficient for the wants of the world." The Chamber then memorialized the Secretary of State for India praying "for the immediate initiation of wise legislative measures taken in conjunction with the leading monetary powers, or for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire specially into the allegations made by your Memorialists regarding the very prejudicial effect of the discrediting of Silver as money." As France has summoned a Conference to consider the possibility of adopting a Bi-Metallic system on an international basis, at which the United States and Germany are to be represented, the Chamber says that the occasion is opportune for the initiation, on the part of Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India, of measures in conjunction with those powers for the settlement of this great question on a sound and satisfactory basis. Mr. Gladstone in reply intimates that "Her Majesty's Government have received an invitation from the Governments of France and the United States to send representatives to attend the approaching conference. The terms of that invitation are that the representatives should adopt a plan for the establishment of the use of Gold and Silver as Bi-Metallic money on the fixed relative value between the two metals, and to submit the same for the acceptance of the Governments, severally represented. It is to be observed that such terms apparently imply a pre-determined conclusion as regards the adoption of bi-metallism; and as it would not be possible for Her Majesty's Government to take any steps which would fetter their freedom of action in respect of the currency of this country, her Majesty's advisers are not in a position to accept the invitation under the conditions at present attached to it." Subsequently a deputation of the Chamber waited upon the Secretary of State for India on the subject. Lord Hartington returned the following reply:

That the Government were fully aware of the importance of the subject as regards British India; that a correspondence was, at the present moment, passing

LOCAL.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Twenty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the British Indian Association was held at the Hall of the Association on Friday, the 29th April 1881, *at* 4 P. M.

Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur, President, in the chair.

The President opened the proceedings by speaking to the following effects :—

GENTLEMEN,—The year, which completes the twenty-ninth Anniversary of our Society, has now passed away. What we did during that period, what hopes were entertained and to what extent they have been fulfilled, how far we had been mindful of the interests of our country, whether we were up to our duty in making known to the Government its wants and aspirations and in respectfully offering suggestions for such administrative reforms and legislative measures as in our humble views we thought necessary, in short, what was the sum-total of our work during the past twelve months, should be reviewed by us *seriatim*. It is embodied in the report now to be read by our Secretary. I dare say you will be pleased with the good results achieved by our Association.

There are various questions of importance on which it would be my delight to say something to-day, but as many of you would like to discuss them, and you would be able to handle them with great ability and thoroughness, I shall only say a few words on one of the most engrossing topics of the day, that is the defrayal by England of the charges of the late Afghan war. I think it falls not within the scope of our Association to bring up for discussion the question of the Afghan war in any other than its fiscal aspect. We accept it as an accomplished fact resulting in the vindication of British honour and the establishment of the wonted valour of the British arms. It is a truism to say that India had no voice in the declaration of this war. It is a patent truth that it was the outcome of the foreign policy of England and was intimately connected with European complications. India is poor. India is overtaxed. India therefore begged that, in justice, England should come forward to pay its expenses. England generously responded through her Premier, who pledged his word that this should be done. This pledge has now been redeemed by the Parliamentary grant of five millions sterling as a contribution to the cost of the war. We are thankful for this kind help. More so, as it would obviate the necessity of the imposition of new burdens on the people, whose loyalty and affection towards the British Government would, on account of this grant, as the Right Hon'ble W. E. Gladstone has truly observed, be greatly increased. Immensely indebted as we are to England for this gift, we cannot but regret that this partial, instead of a full grant, was based on a statement of the prosperous financial condition of India, which can not be supported by facts, as India is now greatly indebted. We can yet hope that a reconsideration of this subject by the Liberal Ministry would result in a full grant, whereby India's debt would be reduced, and some of its existing burdens lightened. I shall now acknowledge on behalf of the Association the valuable services rendered to it by our Secretary the Honourable Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadoor, C. I. E., during the past year, no less important than in the preceding years. He is entitled to our best thanks for identifying the interests of the Society with his own, for devoting his best attention to the welfare of our country, and for bringing to bear on all important works he is entrusted with his unflagging zeal, indefatigable industry, and wealth of knowledge. With the privilege of my age I pray that he may live long to battle manfully and loyally with his pen and tongue in the cause of his country. (Applause !)

The Secretary then read the following report of the Committee :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee beg leave to submit a summary of their operations for the past year.—

PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.

In their last quarterly report the Committee noticed the presentation of their petition to the new Parliament praying for a Royal Commission of enquiry into the administration of India. The petition embraced the following heads, *viz.*, Legislation, Finance and Taxation, Administration of Justice, Landed Tenures, Employment of Natives, and tendencies and effects of the recent Policy of Administration. Having in their last report presented a synopsis of the petition they will in this report barely notice the points urged. Referring to the subject of Legislation the Committee dwelt on the present constitution of the Legislative Councils in India and the inefficacy of the provisions for the admission of non-official members both European and native into the Imperial and Local Councils. Under the head of Finance and Taxation the Committee took a rapid view of the measures adopted from time to time for putting the finances of India on a sound and satisfactory footing. Notwithstanding these measures, they submitted, deficits have formed the recurring feature of almost every annual budget, which have been met either by loans or fresh taxation. They then referred to the causes, which contributed to the enormous increase of Indian expenditure, and which amongst others were—increase of military expenditure, extravagant expenditure in the Public Works Department, the enormous growth of Home Charges, the loss by exchange, and the imposition of extraneous charges upon the revenues of India such as the expenses of the Afghan War. Allusion was also made to the measures the tendency of which was the substitution of direct in lieu of indirect taxation, such as the repeal of the cotton duties, and the reduction of the Salt tax in Bengal. Adverting to the administration of justice the Committee remarked with satisfaction that the introduction of a scientific system for the administration of justice according to fixed laws based on the highest development of juridical lore in the civilized world without distinction of person, country or creed constituted one of the highest claims of the British Government to the gratitude of the people of British India. But there were several imperfections and shortcomings which deserved attention. The tax on justice in the shape of stamp fees was enormous ; the district appellate courts were presided over by European Judges from the covenanted service who had had no legal training whatsoever, and who were destitute of a sufficient knowledge of the Indian world ; the measure for the improvment of the appellate benches matured by the Government of Bengal, and approved by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and other Judges of the Bengal High Court and also by the Viceroy in Council, had remained in abeyance in consequence of refusal of sanction by the Secretary of State, though the necessary funds had been found by the Bengal Government. The mode and machinery for the administration of criminal justice required to be placed on a satisfactory footing, the stamp fee in criminal suits was objectionable and required to be abolished, and the judicial discretion of Magistrates in the interior needed rigorous restraint. Adverting to Land Tenures the Committee discussed the comparative advantages of the Permanent and Periodical Settlements ; the last, they urged, which varied from one to thirty years, had discouraging and demoralizing effects upon the cultivators of the soil, and tended to clog the springs of industry. On the subject of the employment of natives the Committee reviewed the provisions in the Charter Act of 1833 and pointed out that for two decades the statutory declarations had remained a dead letter. The insuperable obstacles of a journey to and stay in England practically shut out the natives of India from the benefit of the public competition for the Indian Civil Service, which had been thrown open by the Charter Act of 1853. These difficulties again had been aggravated by the reduction of limit of age for candidates for the Indian Civil Service from 21 to 19 years, and it was admitted in the correspondence between the Viceroy in Council and the Secretary of State that the object of the reduction was to close the door of competition to the natives of this country. Again, under the rules passed last year for the admission of native gentlemen of good family and education to the Civil Service the candidates were gazetted as those for the Native Civil Service, a branch of service not heretofore in existence. While the Committee took no exception to the principle on which the members of the Native Civil Service were to receive lesser pay than the European members of the Civil Service, they submitted whether the uniform rate of one-third less pay should not commence at a stage when it would less resemble a bare subsistence allowance. The Committee also laid stress on the arguments, which led to the opening of the Covenanted Civil Service of India to public competition, and submitted whether in lieu of the system of nomination based on considerations of birth and social position of the candidates the new rules should not give preference to superior intellectual attainments and good moral character. With regard to the Policy of Administration, the Committee adverted to some manifestations and tendencies, which latterly characterised the administration of Indian affairs. On the one hand the Secretary of State had sought to exercise his supreme authority in disregard of the legitimate advice of the majority or a respectable minority of the Indian Council, on the other hand in India His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in the same spirit overruled the majority of his Council on the subject of the reduction of the cotton duties. Again, there was the manifestation of a tendency to multiply direct taxation, to enact laws calculated to unsettle the minds of the people and interfere with their vested rights and interests, to disturb their cherished ideas, to augment judicial discretion and to curb the liberty of the subject, and fetter freedom of speech. The Arms Act placed serious restrictions on the means and appliances which the people used to have recourse to for the protection of their persons, homes, and crops from the ravages of wild beasts and robbers. In the same or perhaps worse spirit the right of free speech was clogged by the enactment of the Vernacular Press Act. The policy of retrogression and repression, which had of late marked the course of affairs in India, had not been without its baneful effects upon the official mind. As a sequence of this change in the spirit of British rule in India, the British officers, in not a few instances, shewed signs of impatience, intolerance, self-assertiveness and want of sympathy, by no means conducive to the promotion of those cordial relations, which ought to subsist between the rulers and the ruled.

The petition concluded with this prayer, that Parliament may be pleased to address Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen to appoint a Commission to enquire into and report on the general administration of British India since the transfer of the Government of the country from the East India Company to the Crown, or to devise some other means for obtaining evidence on the subject, both in England and in India, with a view to redress and reform hereafter.

PRESENTATION OF THE PETITION.—The petition was presented to the House of Lords by Lord Camperdown and to the House of Commons by Sir David Wedderburn. Lord Camperdown in presenting the petition among other things observed that decentralization and the increased employment of natives were in his opinion the only effectual means of promoting true economy. With regard to public works His Lordship stated it as his opinion that however useful they might be in themselves they should not be carried out at such a rate as to outstrip the financial resources of the country. As for the expenses of the Afghan War the noble Lord said that the Imperial Government were prepared to bear a portion of the cost not as a matter of charity but as an act of justice. The noble Lord then referred to the reply of the Secretary of State to the Indian deputation about the Vernacular Press Act and some sort of representation of the Indian people in the supreme and the provincial Councils and added that as these important questions were under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government he would not make further remarks. Referring to the loyal spirit in which the petition was drawn up His Lordship observed that it furnished a valuable indication of the wishes and desires of their fellow-subjects in India.

Sir David Wedderburn, in presenting the petition to the House of Commons, moved on the introduction of the Indian Budget, the following amendment : "That a Royal Commission should be appointed to enquire in India, into the administration of that country since the transfer of the Government from the East India Company to the Crown." Sir David in support of his motion alluded to the Committees appointed to investigate the state of Indian affairs before the periodical renewal of the East India Company's Charter. What the Indian people now asked, he said, was that a Commission might be sent out to India to ascertain on the spot the views and opinions of the natives. He next referred to the reform suggested in the constitution of the Legislative Councils and in the administration of justice, to the necessity of a permanent settlement of the land revenue in all parts of India, and to the desirability of a more extended employment of natives. He also referred to the centralization system, which had been introduced without regard to the different condition of the different districts, to the expensive machinery of the Civil Courts, to public works and to the canals for irrigation, which had produced fever and barrenness of the soil. He alluded to the small canals of the Punjab made by the natives and inexpensively maintained by the village communities and to those in Ceylon made and maintained under the native system. Mention was made of the fact of immigration that was going on from the British provinces into the native states. In the Nizam's dominion the area of cultivation, he stated, had within ten years been extended 200 per cent. and the number of cultivators, who were principally occupancy tenants, had been doubled, while the assessment had been raised only 55 per cent and that fact attracted the residents of the adjoining British districts. Notwithstanding the alarming nature of the financial condition of British India, that condition was by no means desperate ; he was of opinion that a close attention to the financial administration of India on the part of the Secretary of State would enable him to show good balances. His great point should be to carry out the retrenchments which he considered necessary and desirable. He concluded by expressing a hope that the suggestion for an enquiry into the sub-

jects mentioned in the petition to which he had referred would be favorably considered by Her Majesty's Government. The motion was, however, subsequently withdrawn.

The best thanks of the Association were due to Lord Camperdown and to Sir David Wedderburn for doing them the favor of presenting their petition to Parliament and also of supporting it.

Mr. Dacosta's Co-operation.—The Committee recorded their warmest acknowledgments to Mr. Dacosta for his disinterested exertions in the cause of Indian reform, with special reference to his arrangements for the presentation of their petition to Parliament, and to the labor and expense he incurred in publishing for the information of M. P.s a most able and interesting pamphlet elucidating with a strong array of arguments, facts and figures the several important questions embraced in the petition. This pamphlet, it might be said, to a certain extent performed the work of a Commission.

LEGISLATION.

Amended Factory Bill.—The Committee in their second petition on the Amended Factory Bill noticed with approval the improvements introduced into the Amended Bill, but they regretted the withdrawal of the permissive character of the Bill as in the original draft. In justification of this departure from the original declaration the Select Committee was pleased to urge that the change would in reality be of less importance than it might at first sight appear. The Government of Bombay, they gave it as their opinion, would undoubtedly have exercised the power granted by the original Bill. The Committee submitted that though the Government of Bengal was opposed to the extension of the measure to Bengal the change would force it upon Bengal in the face of the declared views of the local Government and the local public. There was no manner of analogy, the Committee observed, between the circumstances of Bombay and Bengal. In Bombay, it would appear from the summarized conclusions of the Bombay Commission, all the machinery was protected except portions; eight years appeared to be the general age of the youngest operatives, according to some they might be as young as five or six years; hours of work were from sun-rise to sun-set with half an hour for rest in the middle of the day. The factories had no fixed number of holidays during the year; some closed every Sunday, some every other Sunday, and others on one Sunday, in the month; on an average the operatives worked from 300 to 320 days in the year from sun-rise to sun-set. The operatives did not appear to suffer from long hours except in some of the Cotton Press Factories where for three months in the year the work was unexceptionally heavy and trying. Water was freely supplied to the workmen; ventilation in some of the factories was better than in others, but the subject had not received the attention it deserved from many of the mill-owners. But none of the above objections applied to Bengal where the children as a rule had light and easy tasks; it could not, therefore, be just to make a hard and fast rule for Bombay and Bengal alike when the conditions of manufacturing industry in the two provinces were so widely different. If the conditions of factory labour in all the provinces were not equal, the objection that the restrictions placed upon the mills of Bombay involved an interference with the natural development of manufacturing enterprise in India, did not hold good. The Committee further added that, when the different stages of civilization of the several provinces were broad enough to distinguish them into separate communities, it would not be wise statesmanship to bring the peoples of all India down to one dead level for purposes of practical administration. As far as Bengal was concerned, the Committee expressed their conviction that legislative interference was not required there where the operatives were treated in a kindly spirit and where the hours and conditions of work did not tell upon the health of the workmen whether adults or children. The system of factory labor in Bengal, they added, had induced regular habits among the operatives, and by furnishing them with means had enabled them to pursue a higher standard of living and comfort and necessarily of health.

The Committee took exception to the definition of "factory" which was not sufficiently precise, they were not sure whether printing presses might not come under the proposed law. They then referred to the objectionable provision for ascertaining the age of a child and took exception to the limitation of the duration of work for a boy of twelve years or so to nine hours. The application of the provisions of the Bill to Bengal would, the Committee observed, foster discord and dissension between the employer and the labourer. Taking into consideration the benefits which the mills have conferred upon the labouring population, any measure impeding the working of that useful and beneficent agency must be viewed as inimical to the best interests of the nation. For these and other reasons the Committee prayed that His Excellency in Council would be pleased to exclude Bengal from the scope of the Factories Bill, 1880.

In June last the Government of Bengal again invited an expression of opinion of the Association on this Bill, and the Committee in reply referred to the above memorial, of which they submitted a copy, and said that they had nothing to add to what they had already said.

The Bill with considerable modifications and amendments have been since passed into law. The Committee, however, regret that the permissive character of the Bill has been withdrawn.

Cess Bill.—The object of this Bill was to consolidate the Road Cess and the Public Works Cess Acts. The Committee sumbitted that though the amended Bill was an improvement upon the original draft there were still some provisions, which called for modification and amendment. They took exception to the provision for the application of the proceeds of the Public Works Cess to the construction, charges, and maintenance of provincial public works, to the payment of interest on capital which may have been expended or which may be expended on such works according to the direction of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Public Works Cess forming a part of the scheme of famine taxation, the proceeds of that cess, they urged should be appropriated to works which were in the nature of famine insurance, and also to the relief or mitigation of famine sufferings. There was no good reason, they said, for the omission of the provision for the publication of the accounts of the public works cess. They took exception to the provision which imposed a double penalty for default in making a return, urging at the same time that in consideration of the novelty of the tax which involved detailed statements it was worthy of consideration whether the provision for double penalties should be retained. There was a provision in the Bill the Committee pointed out for increased payment in case of enhancement of valuation but none for refund in case of abatement. They objected to the levy from the Cess payers of costs of service of notice in consequence of corrected valuation owing to revised return. The Committee further suggested that as a safeguard against fraud on the part of subordinate holders, holders of rent-free lands might be required to submit the applications in duplicate, one of which with a copy of the applicant's return might be furnished to the landlord that he might have an opportunity for showing that the so-called rent-free lands were rent-paying and had been so included in his return. The Collector in his investigation might call for and inspect any document that might be tendered in evidence by either party; and if so satisfied might treat the lands as rent-paying or rent-free, but the Collector's decision should not affect the right, title, and interest of either party whether zemindar or lakhrajdar. The provision which made the return of the proprietor of an estate admissible in evidence against himself but not in his favor was questionable. In case of the return being false the person making it would be liable to punishment under the Penal Code, if correct, the general law of evidence ought to apply to it. As regards the provision for the indemnification of the Collector for any costs and damages which he might have incurred or for which he might have become liable in the course of the proceedings for the assessment and collection of the Cesses under the Act from the Cess Fund the Committee suggested that no such costs should be paid from the District Fund without the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Committee were opposed to the grant of pensions from the Road Cess Fund which, they said, would be an unnecessary additional burden upon it. The Committee took exception to the vague terms "means and appliances" for facilitating communication, which might lead to the abuse of the fund not intended by the Act by its application to the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and water channels, and therefore suggested some modifications which would guard against such abuse. The provision for the investment of the surplus of the District Fund to Local Debenture Loans, the Committee suggested, should be so framed as to authorize such investment only when the interest of local loans would be higher than the current rate of interest of Government Securities. With regard to the provisions for the application of the Road Fund to works without the limits of any district, to the removal of members of Road Cess Committees who have been guilty of disgraceful conduct, to the delegation of powers of District Committees to Sub-Committees, to the removal of the Vice-Chairman of any Committee upon the recommendation of two-thirds of the members of the Committee, the Committee were of opinion that the Road Fund of any district should on no account be expended on any work beyond its local limits unless such work should directly benefit the district so charged; that a member should be liable to removal only if he be sentenced to criminal imprisonment; that the power of passing the budget ought to be specifically excluded from the category of powers that might be conferred on Sub-Committees; that the removal of the Vice-Chairman when recommended by two-thirds of a Committee should be made obligatory. The Committee deprecated the creation of the new office of Divisional Superintending Engineer since under the Bill, they observed, steps will be taken to secure proper persons to fill the office of Engineer. The Bill provided for mere alterations being made in the statement of works by District Committees, the Committee suggested that the District Committees ought to have power to propose both additions and alterations in the statement of works. In order that new works might not involve the necessity of increasing the rate already determined upon the Committee suggested a provision that new works should be included in the statement only when the funds at the disposal of the Road Cess Committees might admit of their execution. Instead of giving power to the Lieutenant-Governor to raise to the maximum the rate of the Road Cess fixed by a District Committee, if in his opinion the rate be insufficient for the works contained in the statement, the Committee suggested that power should be given to the Lieutenant-Governor to exclude any work from the statement till the charge for maintenance or construction was provided for. Many of the suggestions of the Committees referred to above were adopted by the Council.

Public Demands Recovery Bill.—In their letter to the Bengal Council on this Bill as amended by the Select Committee the Committee of this Association commented on the following points. They took exception to the application of summary procedure prescribed in this Bill to the recovery of rent from estates managed by the Court of Wards or Revenue Authorities. The safeguards provided in the application of the special procedure though an improvement upon the original draft Bill, did not affect the principle of the measure. The Committee pointed out that the distinction made in the Bill between Wards' Estates and private estates was invidious. In both private and Wards' estates the punctual payment of revenue depended upon the punctual realization of rent, but Wards' Estates enjoyed an advantage over private estates, inasmuch as Government management brought in a prestige which a private proprietor could not be expected to command. With this advantage in favor of Ward's Estates the necessity for an exceptional procedure for the recovery of rent in such eatates was not apparent.

Presidency Small Cause Courts Bill.—The Committee were invited by Government to give their opinion on this Bill. The most important changes proposed by it were the following: Extension of the jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Courts from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 without appeal; the vesting the Courts with power to enforce their decrees against immoveable property by transferring them for execution to the High Court in the same way as Moffussil Courts do under Section 21 of Act XI of 1865; the adoption of the Code of Civil Procedure as the Procedure of the Small Cause Courts in the Presidency Towns; the conferral of insolvency, testamentary, and intestate jurisdiction on those Courts. With regard to the extension of jurisdiction, the Committee observed, that they were not prepared to admit that cogent reasons existed for the extension of the summary jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Courts. Notwithstanding the advantages possessed by the United Kingdom in having a properly trained class of professional men for the Bench and the Bar, a vigilant public press and the accessories of a constitutional Government, the jurisdiction of the Country Courts was limited to £50 or 500 rupees, whereas the jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Courts in this country extended to Rs. 1,000. The European tradesmen, it was true, demanded the extension of the jurisdiction of the Small Cause Courts to Rs. 2,000 or upwards, in consideration of the convenience and cheapness of these Courts in the enforcement of their dues, but the natives, particularly non-traders, were not equally satisfied with the administration of justice of the Small Cause Courts. One advantage for which these Courts were resorted to was expedition in the administration of justice and economy in cost. But this advantage was not always secured, contested cases not unfrequently took three months or sometimes a year for disposal. It might be said that if the public had confidence in the working of these Courts they would have largely availed themselves of the provision of law under which suits above Rs. 1,000 could be referred to them for disposal with the mutual consent of parties, but the Committee were not aware of even half

a dozen cases in which the privilege was availed of. The reason was obvious. The judicial element of the Small Cause Courts was admittedly inferior to that of the High Court, while the compensating advantages of expeditiousness and cheapness were shadowy. In cases involving complicated technical questions, which took more than one day in hearing and many days afterwards for writing out judgment, the judgment was written out by the Judge in the absence of records, depending on his memory for the evidence heard by him Surely this was not a good practice. The adoption of certain safeguards might mitigate the evils referred to above, should the Legislature decide on the extension of the jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Courts to Rs. 2000, and in that view the Committee recommended the grant of appeal in suits above Rs. 1,000, the strengthening of the professional element on the bench of the Courts, the record of proceedings and evidence in cases referred to and better arrangements for new trials in suits under Rs. 1000. There were so many nice points of law frequently raised in suits in the Small Cause Courts, so many important questions of fact to be looked to, and so many weighty considerations to be taken into account, that in cases involving heavy amounts, it would not be fair to the public to deprive them of the benefit of appeal. The exposition of law in appeal by the highest judicial authority in the land would be also a great help to the Small Cause Court. For these reasons the Committee recommended that an appeal be allowed to the High Court in suits above Rs. 1000.

The provisions for the appointment of Judges were in the opinion of the Committee anomalous and in some respects ill-defined. Under Section 7 only one Judge, it was provided, shall be a barrister of England or Ireland, or a member of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland. Section 8 directed that the senior in appointment of the Judges, who were barristers or advocates shall be called the Chief Judge, and shall be first of the Judges in rank and precedence. This provision was not clear. In the event of there being two barrister Judges, one the First Judge and the other the Fifth Judge, if the first Judge vacated his post and another barrister succeeded him, would the Fifth Judge be promoted to the First Judgship and be allowed his emoluments or would he take rank and precedence because he was senior in appointment? To obviate the anamoly the Committee recommended that, irrespective of the question of seniority of appointment, the First or Chief Judge should always be a barrister of superior attainments and standing, and should be paid a higher salary than what he drew, and that he should be eligible to promotion to the bench of the High Court. The Committee further recommended that at least half the number of Judges of the Small Cause Court should be men educated and versed in the law, that is to say barristers, attorneys, and vakeels of sufficient standing. The necessity for the record of evidence in suits above Rs. 1,000 in order to admit of appeal, was self-evident. In respect of suits under Rs. 1,000 the present system of new trials ought to be maintained, but new trials in such suits ought to be granted as a matter of right, and it should be granted on the applicant's finding security to the satisfaction of the Court for the amount decreed. The insistance of the deposit of the amount decreed with the application for new trial would in the case of poor suitors, lead to a denial of justice. In a case where a Judge might be interested as a member of a Joint-Stock Company he should not be allowed to try a suit arising therefrom.

The Committee objected to the withdrawal of the jurisdiction of the Court in suits against the Secretary of State in Council and in suits concerning any acts ordered by any member of Government. That provision would be not only a violation of the sacred principle of equality in the eye of the law, but would subject private individuals having claims against the Government to grave injustice and hardship inasmuch as they must either forgo their claims against the Government or have recourse to the expensive ordeal of the High Court. If Small Cause Courts were good enough for private individuals, they ought to be good enough for Government and members of Government. The Committee were not aware of any evil having arisen from the powers now exercised by the Small Cause Court Judges in this respect. Besides, the withdrawal of the jurisdiction of the Courts in Government suits would mark a want of confidence in them on the part of Government, which would lower them in the estimation of the public. The Committee noticed with satisfaction the provision for the execution of a decree of a Small Cause Court against immoveable property. Under Section 24, the Court was empowered to send its decrees for execution to the High Court, or to a Moffussil Court. In connection with the subject, the Committee suggested the necessity of clearing up the question whether tiled huts should be treated as immoveable property. Under the combined ruling of the High Court and the Court of Small Causes tiled huts were neither moveable property nor fixtures, and the landlord could not attach the tiled hut of a defaulting tenant as coming under the definition of "goods and chattels" or claim it as a fixture. His remedy for recovery of arrears of rent lay in the attachment of the moveable property of the defaulter, and as in not a few cases his property was nil, he was practically left without a remedy. To drive the landlord or other creditors to the High Court for the issue of process for the sale of a tiled hut as immoveable property would be tantamount to telling the decreeholder to go without a remedy. The cost of execution through the Sheriff of the High Court in realizing small sums would exceed considerably the sale proceeds of many huts. All this inconvenience and expense might be avoided, the Committee submitted, by declaring tiled huts or tenements of defaulting tenants liable to attachment and sale for non-payment of rent, and they therefore urged that the existing embargo upon the sale of huts in execution of a decree of the Small Cause Court be withdrawn. With regard to the provision for the adoption of the Civil Procedure as the procedure of the Presidency Small Cause Courts, the Committee expressed it as their opinion that it would greatly complicate matters, cause delay in the disposal of suits, multiply the work of the ministerial establishment, and entail the expense of legal advice and legal agency upon suitors. The present procedure, the Committee observed, had operated smoothly enough, was well understood by both the public and the profession, and did not therefore call for alteration. It might be improved, but ought not to be overloaded.

The Committee objected to the conferral of the insolvent jurisdiction on the Presidency Small Cause Courts. Even if the jurisdiction be confined to non-traders and the object be to relieve the High Court of a "mass of petty work," which consisted in the disposal of applications of Government clerks, the policy of transfer of jurisdiction on public grounds was open to serious objections. If the great mass of non-trading insolvents consisted of Government clerks, surely facility ought not to be afforded to them to pass through the Court by cheapening the process. Far from checking insolvency, this provision would tend to encourage it and thus have a demoralizing effect. Artizans and private servants would be stimulated to have recourse to the cheap process of getting rid of their just debts, which in the absence of such facilities they would settle by some arrangement with their creditors. The Insolvency Jurisdiction, the Committee therefore recommended, might be withdrawn from the Presidency Small Cause Courts. The Committee had always advocated the conferral of testamentary and intestate jurisdiction upon the Small Cause Courts for the grant of probates or letters of administration in the case of estates of less than Rs. 1000 in amount or value, and they were glad to notice that this object would best be secured by conferring the testamentary jurisdiction upon the Presidency Small Cause Courts. Lastly, the Committe recommended the reduction of costs of the Presidency Small Cause Courts. The Calcutta Court yielded a surplus of about Rs. 70,000 per annum, and this would increase by the extension of jurisdiction. The Committee remarked that it was not clear from the wording of Section 47, Clause 6, whether the fee of one anna in the rupee was to be charged on the whole amount or value of the subject-matter at that rate or such portion as exceeded five hundred rupees. The service of process in Calcutta was most costly, the actual cost of service ought to be levied. Thus in a suit for Rs. 2000, the institution fee would come to Rs. 259, and fees for summons and other processes to Rs. 20-12, or a total of Rs. 289-12; whereas the court fees for a suit for the same amount in the High Court would not exceed Rs. 40. This was of course exclusive of professional assistance and other incidental charges. If the Small Cause Court would cease to be a cheap agency, the material advantages of the extension of jurisdiction would not be realized. Furthermore, the Committee expressed it as their opinion that the Court ought to be empowered to allow law costs on a fixed scale in the same manner as other Courts were authorized to do. Under the provisions made it was optional with the court to order payment of expenses of employing legal practitioners, the rule ought to be made absolute.

The Committee observe with satisfaction that the Bill has undergone material alterations in Select Committee, and that not a few of their recommendations have been adopted. The following is an abstract of the amendments made by the Select Committee:

"The Committee have provided that one-third of the Judges, shall be advocates of a High Court, making the Chief Judge the first in rank, the precedence o the other Judges has been left to be determined by the local Government. Certain administrative powers have been transferred to the Chief Judge alone. A Registrar shall be appointed who shall have jurisdiction to try suits up to Rs. 20. With regard to the jurisdiction of the Courts over defendants residing beyond the local limits of their jurisdiction, the suitors must first obtain leave of the Court. The Committee have excluded certain class of suits from the jurisdiction of the Court of Small Causes such as suits for compensation for malicious prosecution, suits for cancellation and rectification of instruments and similar others. The clause depriving a plaintiff of costs in certain cases if he should elect to institute a suit in the High Court against an officer of the Small Cause Court for wrong done by him under color of its process has been struck out. The provision, which specified the grounds on which a Judge in other cases in which Small Cause Court suits are instituted in the High Court may certify for costs has also been omitted. The objections to the section which applies to the Small Cause Court a large portion of the Code of Civil Procedure have been carefully considered, and the provisions of the Code will be applicable to suits in exceptional cases; some alterations have been made where necessary. Under a new section added no decision passed under this Act shall be conclusive except as to the right to the relief granted or the absence of a right to the relief withheld by it. Tiled huts have been declared moveable property; it has been provided that any thing which the tenant would be entitled to remove during his tenancy may be taken in the execution of a decree against him as if it were a moveable. It has been further provided that no decree of a Small Cause Court shall be executed after the lapse of three years from the date on which it is passed unless the Judgment-Debtor by force or fraud has prevented its execution within the three years. Minors are allowed to sue for a sum not exceeding Rs. 500 due for wages, or piece-work or for work as a servant.

"Fresh provisions have been made providing for the rehearing of a suit above Rs. 500 in the High Court, as if it had been instituted in that Court. The Insolveney and Testamentary chapters have been struck out. The grant of probates and letters of administration will be better secured it is said, by the extension of the certificate system effected by Act IX of 1881. The section preventing the fees of a legal practitioner being recovered as costs unless his employment is held to be reasonable to cases where the amount or value in dispute is less than Rs. 20 has been modified. No legal practitioners other than advocates, attorneys and vakils, of the High Court and persons who are now pleaders of the Small Cause Courts, shall appear, plead or act in the Small Cause Court; Advocates in appearing in a suit in the Small Cause Court as Counsel shall be instructsd by an attorney or vakil, or by a pleader of the Small Cause Court. The right of parties to conduct their own cases and appear for one another and also the rights of recognized agents remain as before. The Government has referred the Amended Bill to the Association for opinion, which is now under the consideration of the Committee."

REALIZATION OF RENT FROM OWNERS OF TILED HUTS IN CALCUTTA.—Referring to the representation noticed in the report for the last quarter regarding the difficulties experienced by landlords in Calcutta in collecting rents from tenants occupying tiled huts, the Committee are glad to state that the Select Committee on the Presidency Small Cause Courts Bill as noticed above have inserted a provision declaring tiled huts to be moveable property liable to attachment and sale in execution of a decree of the Small Cause Court.

RENT BILL.

CIRCULAR TO MOFUSSIL MEMBERS.—On the receipt from the Government of Bengal of a letter with copies of the Report of the Rent-Law Commission and the Draft Rent Bill prepared by them, inviting an expression of the opinion of the Association on the same, the Committee caused a synopsis of the new Rent Bill to be prepared in English and Bengali, which was forwarded to their constituents and others interested in land in the Mofussil and requested their opinion on the several points noticed in the synopsis. The Committee in their circular suggested that in order to give due effect to the wish of Government for the expression of public opinion on the Bill it was desirable that the landed classes should organize local Committees and discuss the provisions of the Bill. They also invited the co-operation of the Landholders' Associations in the Mofussil in their behalf. They are glad to state that a ready response was given to their appeal. The Behar Landholders' Association took the lead and held a public meeting for the discussion of the subject; as the result of their deliberations they have submitted to Government a memorial with an elaborate note comment-

ing in detail on the provisions of the Bill. Their example was followed in other districts. The East Bengal Landholders' Association and the Rajshahye Association held meetings and criticized the Bill; their criticisms are contained in the representations they have submitted to Government. Public meetings were also held in the districts of Hooghly, Nuddea, Backergunge, Mymensing, Chittagong, Dinagepore and Bhaugulpore. The Committee received from many landholders their individual opinions on the provisions of the Bill. The interest thus manifested was general and wide.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE BILL.—The Committee in acknowledging the communication from Government mentioned above observed that in consideration of the great importance of the Bill which affected the vital interests of the landed classes in Bengal it would be necessary to take the opinion of the landholders in the Mofussil, who will again take time in furnishing their opinion which they will not be able to do before thoroughly scrutinizing the Bill. Though a Bengali synopsis of the leading provisions of the Bill showing the changes contemplated was under preparation by the Committee for circulation, it would be desirable to have full translations of the Report of the Commission and the Draft Bill into the vernaculars for the information of the major portion of the [native landholders who were ignorant of English. The Committee further urged that if the Bill be introduced into the Bengal Council in November or December as proposed there would hardly be time for the native public to submit their opinions, and it was doubtful whether the translations would be ready by that time. The Committee therefore solicited that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor would be pleased to order a translation of the Report and the Bill into the vernaculars and to allow at least twelve months' time to the public for the consideration of the Bill. The Committee are glad to state that the translations have been since supplied by Government, and that practically the extension of time has been granted.

FURTHER REFERENCE TO GOVERNMENT ON THE RENT BILL.—The Committee towards the end of the year addressed a letter to the Government of Bengal with a view to ascertain the views of the Lieutenant-Governor as to the points to which His Honor might wish to restrict the proposed legislation especially as to whether the Bill of the Rent Commission was accepted by Government in its entirety or not. A statement of the views of the Government on the subject, the Commitee submitted, would simplify their labours on the Bill.

GOVERNMENT REPLY.—In reply to the above reference the Committee were informed that the Government was not in a position to state procisely what modifications it would ultimately propose in the Draft Bill of the Rent-Law Commission. But the Lieutenant-Governor had no doubt that it would be possible to simplify very considerably both the substantive and procedure portions of the Draft-Bill. What the Government desired to have at an early date was an expression of opinion from those consulted upon the main features and general principles of the Commission's proposals. Having received this opinion the Lieutenant-Governor will have a Bill drawn up embodying the opinion which the Supreme Government may finally decide to adopt. This Bill will be submitted with the copies of all the opinions and reports received regarding the work of the Commission for the consideration and orders of the Government of India and the Secretary of State for India. No Bill will be actually introduced until the orders of the Supreme and Home Governments have been received on the proposals of the Local Government.

The Government indicated in general terms its views regarding the Bill. Firstly, what the Lieutenant-Governor wanted chiefly was the establishment of the occupancy tenure on a broad and permanent basis. Secondly, with regard to enhancement of rent, His Honor was inclined to hold that there would be little practical difficulty in having a Table of Rates drawn up for each district by a District Commission, which should lay down the equitable rates payable for each class of land or in each segment of the district subject to similar conditions. Such a Commission might be composed of the District Collector aided by an experienced Settlement Deputy Collector, and one or more persons possessed of special knowledge. If it be advisable hereafter to establish special courts for the trial of rent-suits, the Judge of any such Court would naturally be a member of the Rates Commission of his District. The Lieutenant-Governor would not have any violent disturbance of existing rents. In his opinion the law should prescribe the limit of rent with reference to the gross produce of the staple crops, and the limitation of one-fourth of the gross produce recommended by the Rent-Law Commission appeared to him to be reasonable. The landlord should be able to get a moderate and fair enhancement where he was clearly entitled to it. When once the Table of Rates by the higher revenue authorities was fixed, (and before this was done all parties should have full opportunity of objecting to it and criticizing it) it should hold good for a period of at least 10 years, after which it should be open to revision. The Courts should be bound by it as the ultimate standard in all cases of enhancement coming before them. The elaborate alternative proceedure for enhancement of rent set forth in the Draft-Bill of the Rent Commission appeared to the Lieutenant-Governor unnecessary and undesirable. The duty of the revenue authorities might apparently be limited to giving assistance in preparing and checking the District Table of Rates.

With regard to the trial of rent suits the Lieute-Governor remarked: "There seems to be a general feeling that the procedure of chapter XVIII of the Bill is not calculated to afford the amount of relief expected in the way of expediting the disposal of suits for arrears. In respect of the realization of current rates the Government is anxious to assist the landholding interest more effectually. If the receivers of rent would be content with recovering current rent from the actual crop of the year, the Lieutenant-Governor believes that it would be possible by introducing a modified system of distraint through the instrumentality of the Courts, to furnish them with a sure and safe means of recovering such rents in ordinary years without in any way damaging the tenant's position." On the question of summary procedure the Government expressed a desire to have the advice of the Association, and also on the subject of sub-letting.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ROAD CESS PROCEEDINGS IN HOOGHLY.—The Committee solicited the attention of the Board of Revenue to the action of the Collector of Hooghly in reference to returns of rent-free lands called for by him by notification for the purpose of road-cess assessment. The Committee submitted that the action of the Collector was not warranted by law. Section 6 of Act X. of 1871 simply empowered the Collector to enter in a separate register rent-free lands, returns of which had been made according to the procedure laid down in that section, but it did not authorize him to call for returns of rent-free lands in the manner followed by him. Whatever shortcomings there might have been in the existing law they have been remedied by the new Consolidation Cess Act. Under the notification of the Collector referred to above the landholders are not allowed an opportunity of making supplementary returns, and if the lands shewn in the returns made under the notification were accepted as *ipso facto* rent-free, there would be much confusion, dispute and litigation. The returns made under this notification could not be made the basis of assessment under the present law, which did not provide for such returns, while they must contain entries of lands which had been already returned by landholders. Under the new law these could not be viewed as proper returns as such returns were not to be filed until a year after the passing of the Act, and the Act had not yet received the assent of the Governor General. If these returns were allowed to form a part of the collectorate record for purposes of cess assessment not only would such a proceeding be *ultra vires*, but would lead to much practical mischief by sowing seeds of dissension between landholders and psuedo rent-free tenure holders. The Committee solicited that the Board will be pleased to issue the needful orders on the subject, which they understand has been done.

REALIZATION OF CESSES FROM LAKHRAJDARS—With reference to the proceedings of the Bengal Council held in September last regarding the omission of the clauses from the original Cess Bill respecting the realization of the cesses from the lakhrajdars, already paid in on their behalf, the Committee observed that it was no part of the obligation of the landholders to realize the cesses from the lakhrajdars. But in the practical fulfilment of the obligation imposed upon them by law there has been loss to both landholders and to Government. In the first place those landholders who had included the lakhraj land in their estates in their returns had to suffer loss in the recovery of the cesses paid by them on behalf of the lakhrajdars, and in the second place the majority of landholders finding it difficult to include all lakhraj lands in their returns, there was loss to the cess fund. The withdrawal of the power proposed to be given to the landholders, in the Consolidation Cess Bill, as a remedy for the evil complained of, to sue the defaulting lakhrajdars for the arrears of cess as rent, would prevent the entertainment of suits under the Rent Act. As the clauses had been omitted from the Bill on account of a technical objection and as both the local Government and the local Council admitted the hardship to the landholders, the Committee expressed a hope that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor would be pleased to bring to the notice of the Government of India the necessity of restoring the expunged classes by a separate enactment. The Committee in conclusion submitted that until the restoration of the expunged clauses His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor would be pleased to hold in abeyance the obligation imposed on the zemindars to pay in the cesses on behalf of the lakhrajdars.

The Committee are glad to state that this application has been complied with and that the expunged clauses have been restored by an enactment of the Governor General's Council.

CESS RETURNS.—In Schedule A. Part II. of Act IX. (B. C.) of 1880, the Consolidation Cess Act, there was a provision requiring landholders to give the area of lands occupied by their tenants. As few landholders had the means of knowing the areas occupied by their cultivating tenants it would be difficult to fill in the column for areas in their returns. The Committee, therefore, represented to Government that if the requisition in column 4 of the return be insisted upon the owners of lands called upon to make returns would be saddled with a duty under a penalty, which they were not in a position to perform. If the Lieutenant-Governor was not inclined to amend an Act but recently passed the Committee took leave to suggest that His Honor might be pleased to issue an executive order instructing revenue officers to dispense with the entry required in column 4 of the return and to publish the same for general information.

FAWCETT ELECTION FUND.—As stated in their last quarterly report, the Committee received intimation from a friend in London that in the general election consequent on the dissolution of Parliament there would be a strong party opposition to the election of Mr. Fawcett as member for Hackney. It being too late then to think of addressing the Electors of Hackney or adopt any other means for strengthening the hands of the "member for India," the Committee thought that the best way of supporting Mr. Fawcett from India would be to place him in a position to meet the expenses incidental to a contested election. The Committee accordingly resolved to authorize the application of the unspent balance of the fund raised in 1874 amounting to Rs. 4000 then lying in the hands of trustees, to the present occasion, and to raise a further subscription for the purpose. The call for subscriptions, the Committee are glad to state, was responded to with the utmost promptness and alacrity. Though the requisition was confined to the members of the Association, and a few other gentlemen the sum of Rs. 6100 was subscribed in the course of a month. The Committee beg to refer to their last quarterly report for the names of the subscribers to the fund and the amount of their subscriptions.

In remitting the amount realized minus charges by a draft at sight for £507-5-8 to the Right Hon'ble Mr. H. Fawcett, the Committee took the liberty to suggest that the unspent balance if any might be funded for future application to like purpose in the same manner as the subscriptions raised by them in 1874 were secured.

The Committee availed themselves of this opportunity to express their satisfaction to the Right Hon'ble Mr. Fawcett at his association with the new ministry in recognition of his eminent public services, and they expressed a hope that though a member of the Government he will not lose sight of his sacred self-imposed charge—India.

MR. FAWCETT'S REPLY.—In acknowledgment of the remittance above referred to Mr. Fawcett, while offering his earnest and heartfelt thanks for the contribution towards the expenses of his election said that only a part of the sum remitted will be required on account of the recent election; the balance will be funded as suggested. "The pecuniary obligation," wrote Mr. Fawcett, "represented a small part of the gratitude I owe to the Indian people for their generous expression of confidence in me. I think nothing contributed more to my success in the recent election than the repeated recognition which the people of India have given of any service which I may have been able to render them." With regard to his connection with Indian politics, he said that nothing will diminish the interest he has taken in the welfare of India. He hoped to be able to work in behalf of India not less in the future than in the past.

(To be continued.)

(Printed and published at the Hindoo Patriot.)

between the India Office, the Foreign Office and the Treasury respecting the invitation which had been received for England to be represented at the Paris Conference; that the form of the invitation was not exactly as stated in paragraph 8 of the Memorial. it was not to consider the possibility of adopting the bi-metallic system on an international basis but for the purpose simply of adopting that system. It pledged all parties accepting the invitation to the principle of the system in full. Her Majesty's Government, while exceedingly anxious, on behalf of India, to assist in carrying out measures for re-establishing the value of silver, were not prepared to go to the full extent of acknowledging the principle before they entered the Conference, but they were willing to join it in order to see if they could facilitate the end in view. His Lordship also said they were endeavouring to get the form of invitation altered so as to enable them to come into the Conference. It would be scarcely fair and honest on the part of England to lead other nations who accepted the invitation in full, to suppose that England was coming in at once, bound to the whole of the principle. At the same time England was exceedingly anxious in the interests of India that some thing should be done. He was very glad to see gentlemen who had thought out and fully understood the matter, because as the Deputation was aware, there were many eminent financiers who did not hold the same views, and the greater the number of competent persons who supported such opinions as those expressed in Mr. Chapman's Memorandum the greater confidence the Government of India would have in endeavouring to carry out the recommendations contained in that Memorandum.

We are however glad to learn that it has been since arranged that both England and India will be represented at the Paris Conference.

In the memorandum of Mr. Chapman referred to by the deputation and the Marquis of Hartington occurs the following important paragraph:

Reference has been made, in this Memorandum more than once, to the consent of a sufficient number of nations as essential to the establishment of a common standard measure of value. The greater the number of nations associated for such a purpose, the more thorough would be the result. At the same time, it has been shown how effectual has been the action of a single nation (France); and it is believed that, if America, France, Germany, and India were to unite with this object, the desired reform would be effectually and permanently accomplished, and that it might be even possible to dispense with the co-operation of Germany. The Government of British India need not hesitate to become a party to such a union, to which it might be expected that other nations would quickly adhere. The Government of India should not join any convention to which France is not a party. Present circumstances imperatively demand a concerted action between France and India."

India is vitally interested in the Silver question, and we do hope that the decision of the Paris Conference will help the solution of that question. Mr. Gladstone will do a grievous wrong to India, if he allows his insular English ideas to preponderate in the matter, which may be said financially to be one of life and death to the millions of this country.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

IT AFFORDS us much pleasure to announce that the bust of the late Babu Ram Gopal Ghose, voted at a public meeting, has been put up at the Town Hall. It has been executed by an Italian artist. The pedestal has been ornamented on three sides in graffito with three medallions representing Eloquence, Commerce, and Agriculture. As no ceremony was observed in unveiling the busts of the late Raja Sir Radhakant Bahadur, K. C. S. I. and the late Hon'ble Prossunno Kumar Tagore C. S. I., the Memorial Committee propose to follow the same course in this instance. The bust has been made from photos supplied by the Committee; it is a fair likeness.

WE ARE glad to notice that the rising of the Bheels in the territory of Oodoypore has been promptly suppressed. It occurred in consequence of the imposition of a new tax or rather the revival of an old tax on spirits. The outbreak had assumed a somewhat threatening proportion, and troops had been ordered out by our Government. But we believe the prompt withdrawal of the tax has quieted the Bheels, who have laid down their arms. All's well that ends well.

WE REGRET exceedingly the discussion, which took place at the last sitting of the Calcutta Corporation on the application of Mr. Kimber, the Engineer, for privilege leave on full pay. It was an unnecessary waste of time, and the personal remarks made by some Commissioners were wholly unworthy of the first civic body in the Empire. We, however, congratulate Mr. Harrison on the *debut* he made. He spoke with much force of reason and in excellent spirit, the immediate effect of which was the retractation of the charges made by Dr. K. M. Bonnerjee against the Engineer. We are also glad that a very large majority of the Commissioners present sanctioned Mr. Kimber's application. The minority had only five votes.

WE ARE sorry to learn that a dispute has broken out between the Indigo planters and their ryots in Midnapore. The ryots have submitted a memorial to Government in which they complain of high-handed doings on the part of their planter landlords. A case is mentioned in the local vernacular paper, which is also colored by Indigo. In this case the Magistrate, Mr. Price, does not seem to come out all right. We hope the parties interested will obtain an attested copy of the judgment of the Sessions Judge and publish it for general information.

ON FRIDAY last the twenty-ninth annual general meeting of the British Indian Association was held, Maharaja Narendrakrishna presiding. After a few preliminary remarks from the chair the report of the Committee was received and adopted and the accounts were passed. The following gentlemen were next elected office-bearers for the current year:

President.—Babu Rajendralala Mitra, Rai Bahadoor, LL.D., C. I. E.

Vice-Presidents—Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor, Raja Suttyanund Ghosal Bahadoor, Raja Harendra Krishna Bahadoor, and Prince Ferokh Shah.

Committee—Hon'ble Maharaja Joteendramohun Tagore Bahadur C.S.I., Raja Rajendranaryan Deb Bahadur, Babu Joykissen Mookerjee, Babu Durgachurn Law, Nabab Ashgar Ali, Dilwarjung Bahadur, C. S. I., Hon'ble Maharaja Luchmessur Sing Bahadur of Durbhangah, Babu Pearychand Mitra, Raja Promothonath Roy Bahadur, Kumar Debendar Mullick, Babu Juloolal Millick, Babu Gobindol Seal, Babu Chunder Kant Mookerjee. Babu Grishchunder Ghose, Hon'ble Pearymohun Mookerjee, Kumar Poornochunder Sing, Babu Denonath Mullick, Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali, Babu Norendra Nath Sen, Hirjeebhoy Manickjee Rustomjee. Esq., Babu Obhoychurn Goho, Babu Samachurn Law, Babu Jogendra Chunder Ghose, Babu Gurudas Banerjee, D. L., Babu Kallynath Mitter. Babu Bhuggobutty Churn Mullick, Babu Sreenath Chunder, Babu Surendranath Pal Chowdhry, Syud Ahmed, Babu Boikuntonath Bose, Babu Nobinchunder Burral, Hon'ble Kristodas Pal Ral, Bahadur, C. I. E., Secretary.

Some important questions were discussed at the meeting, to wit, England's contribution towards Affghan war expenditure, arrest of zenana ladies in execution of decrees, and a recent decision of the High Court in a rent suit submitted by Mr. J. H. Rainey of Khulnea. We hope to publish a full report of the meeting in our next. We give the Report of the Committee in a supplement.

WE CONGRATULATE the British Indian Association on their election of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra as their President for the current year. A grandson of Raja Petumber Mitra his social position is in no way inferior to that of any member of the Association, while his intellectual vigour, ability, public spirit and independence are too well known to need any commendation from us. Although a scholar and antiquarian, he has been not the less a public man and patriot. He has always taken a lively interest in the affairs of his country, and has been noted for a rare breadth of mind and a strong national feeling. He has also been a most zealous member of the British Indian Association from almost its foundation. He is held in high estimation by his countrymen and the public generally, and we are glad to observe that his election as President of the Association has given universal satisfaction.

WE HAVE always said that the more the Mofussil districts are impregnated with the light of public opinion, the better for the good government of the country. It affords us no small satisfaction to observe that most of our leading districts are gradually obtaining press organs of their own. The last venture in this direction hails from Mymensing. Babu Harachunder Roy Chowdry, a wealthy and public-spirited zemindar, Sherepore, Mymensing, has started a weekly vernacular paper entitled the *Charu Varta*, the object of which is the diffusion of correct intelligence connected with public measures and policy and the advocacy of native rights and interests with moderation. The first number of the paper is before us; it is well designed and well written. We wish it every success.

WE ARE sorry to observe that the students of the Shibpore Engineering College have been in an unhappy state from the beginning. There was at first an invidious distinction made between them and East Indian students, and little attention was paid to their comfort. Steps have, however, been since taken by the Director of Public Instruction to remove their grievances under this head. But they are blessed with a Superintendent of the workshops in the person of a Mr. Fouracres, who seems not to give them peace. The students complain that Mr. Fouracres "habitually maltreats and insults them" Lately one student happened to break a die in the attempt to punch a hole through a piece of iron. Mr. Fouracres got very angry, called the student an "idiot," and "caught hold of him by the neck and turned him about for a time with violent jerks" in the presence of the workshop establishment. The offending student offered to make good the loss, but he was not listened to. Mr. Fouracres, we are informed, was particularly displeased because the student, who belonged to the Carpenter's shop, had no business to come to the Fitters' shop, but we are told that lately order had been given to students to go from one shop to another. So there was no breach of discipline. The students have complained to the Director against the rudeness and violent conduct of Mr. Fouracres. They justly say:

"We appeal to you as the head of the Education Department for protection. Any one of us may at any time be subjected to the treatment which Srischaundra has received at the hands of Mr. Fouracres. We feel that the insult that had been offered to Serischandra has been offered to the entire body of the Native Students of the College. We appeal to you that we may be spared the possibility of such indignities in the future. In seeking to learn Engineering we have not ceased to be gentlemen, and manual labour, it is to be hoped, has not degraded us in the estimation of our teachers.

Our contemporary of the *Englishman* in noticing this matter throws ridicule upon the students and charges them "with priggish impertinence and insubordination." We confess we for one fail to see why the ill-used students should be maligned in this way. Far from proving "impertinent" or "insubordinate" they have shewn a thoroughly loyal spirit in bringing the conduct of the Superintendent to the notice of the proper constituted authorities. If they were English boys they would have in all likelihood enforced redress by returning blow for blow, but we are glad to note that the aggrieved native students did not infringe discipline. These students are sons of gentlemen, and they ought to be treated as such. The Shibpore College has a Board of Visitors, and we hope they will make full investigation into the matter.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY, while Chief Commissioner of Assam, had before him the question of the future of the language of the province. He is reported to have made the following remarks on the subject:

Sir S. Bayley has no doubt that Bengali is destined to become the sole language of Assam, and thus to become the spoken language of the cultivated classes. There is in reality as yet no Assamese literature, and, in making Assamese the language of the Courts and of the primary schools, the Government of the day, though no doubt consulting administrative convenience in the present, unquestionably retarded the invitable absorption of the smaller and less cultivated dialect in the larger and more advanced language of Bengal. The Chief Commissioner, however, is not sure that it would be wise for the Administration to attempt to control the distant future or to provide beforehand for a change which, if it take place at all, will be the result of more widely-diffused culture and better means of communication than exist at present. From this point of view Sir Steuart Bayley is content to maintain the conditions established by Sir George Campbell,—that is to say, to recognize the plain fact that Assamese, as spoken, is a different dialect from Bengali, and to leave the displacement of it by the latter to work itself out, as no doubt it ultimately will, in the natural course of events. The Chief Commissioner is of opinion, therefore, that in districts where Assamese is the vernacular instruction should be given in the lower vernacular schools rather in that language than in Bengali. If text-books in Assamese are absolutely not to be had, measures should be taken for their preparation, and, till they are prepared, the Chief Commissioner will not prohibit the use of Bengali books as a temporary measure. Sir Steuart Bayley fears, however, that when once Bengali books have been introduced, departmental officers will be disinclined to diturb them, and he

would prefer that Assamese text-books' though inferior, in intrinsic merit, should, if possible, be used from the very beginning."

The premises of Sir Steuart Bayley is perfectly fair, but the conclusions arrived at by him are strangely inconsistent.

THE DISTRICT CHARITABLE SOCIETY of Calcutta is one of the oldest institutions in India; it has completed the fiftieth year of its existence. We have before us the fiftieth annual report of the Society. The object of the Society, as it is stated in the report, is the relief of the local poor without reference to class, colour, or creed. It also assists deserving persons in finding employment in out-stations, granting donations or small advances to enable them to join their appointments. The Society is governed directly by a Central Committee. The City is divided into a number of districts corresponding to the various Parishes of the Church of England; and for the relief of the European and Eurasian poor resident in the district the local vestry is the agency employed by the Society. Natives are relieved by a Native Committee. With the casual poor the Honorary Secretary deals himself; but, whether resident or casual, European, Eurasian or Native, no relief is afforded without careful enquiry. This is a most useful Society in the capital, but we are sorry to observe that it is not adequately supported by the public. We commend it to the patronage of the charitably-disposed of all classes.

RELIGIOUS rivalry has of late become the rage in Calcutta. Street music and open-air preaching have become the fashion. Hindus, Mahomedans, Christians and Brahmos vie with each other. During theEaster a bandof Christian preachers got the permission of the Commissioner of Police for open-air preaching at the Wellington Square; seeing this Christian movement two parties of Mahomedans and Hindus came forward with their preachers, but the Police did not allow them the use of the Square. There have consequently been much heart-burning and discontent. We really do not undertand what authority had the Police in the matter. The Squares belong to the Municipality, and the Municipal Commissioners alone have control over them. The Chairman of the Corporation as the chief executive could alone issue orders as to the use of the Squares, but the Commissioner of Police had no authority in the matter, and if he did grant permission to the Christians and if he did withhold it from the Mahomedans and Hindus, he not only acted *ultra vires* but gave expression to a feeling of religious intolerance, which ought to have no place in the government of a mixed community like that of this town. It is the duty of the Police to preserve order, but in diong so it has no business to make an invidious distinction between creed and creed. If the subordinate Police have done this without authority, they ought to be called to book; if the superior officers of the Police did issue the orders complained of, they have seriously compromised the town authorities and the Government, and ought to be called upon to explain their conduct. We do hope that there will be no recurrence of this sad business again. The question is—what should be done in the future? Should the public Squares be allowed to be used for open-air preaching, lectures or meetings? These Squares are intended for public resort for purpose of health recreation and they are generally planted with flower trees, and are maintained at considerable expense to the town. They are simply ruined when they are opened to public gatherings of the kind mentioned. Those who wish to hold open-air preaching, lectures or meetings, should go to the Maidan. We do hope that the Municipal Commissioners, who alone have control over the Squares, will act firmly in this matter.

WE ARE glad to learn that with reference to the question of the arrest of zenana ladies in execution of decrees the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to call upon the Government solicitor for all papers connected with the case, which has created so much sensation. We hope His Honor will consider this important point. As our jails are constituted there is no fit place for the reception of zenana ladies. The lady in the particular case, though imprisoned for civil debt, was put in a criminal jail at Russapugla and made to herd with criminals and prostitutes. In the interests of morality we ask whether it is desirable that zenana ladies with their sense of modesty and delicacy should be put in prisons, where not only the social usages under which they have brought up would receive a rude shock but their morals would be sapped. The exemption from imprisonment for debt claimed on their behalf is not a mere sentiment. It is a question deeply connected with morality. The English law has introduced many changes in native society, but its main object has been to conserve the interests of truth, justice and morality. But its enforcement in a way that would destroy morality among zenana women would be most deplorable.

WE THANK Babu Peary Chand Mitra for a copy of his life of Mr. Colesworthy Grant, founder and late Honorary Secretary of the Calcutta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The subject of the Memoir was a quiet, unassuming gentleman,but full of the milk of human kindness. There could be naturally no stirring events in the life of such a man, but as the champion of the dumb creation he fought their battle with courage and devotion. To him was chiefly due the law for the prevention of cruelty to animals, which was introduced into the Bengal Council by the author BabuPeary Chand Mitra. With the aid of this law he established the Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. He was its first Honorary Secretary and held that office till a few months before his death. He worked most zealously in the interests of the Society. The fountains which one sees in town for the use of the cattle were erected chiefly through his benevolent exertions. With scanty materials Babu Peary Chand Mitra has made the biography very interesting. It is not a mere memoir of his hero, but also a chornicle of many important events in which Mr. Colesworthy Grant and his father appeared in some way or other. The author has done full justice to his subject.

WE HAVE received the last number of the London *Statesman* for April. There are several interesting articles in this number, which we have not had time to read through. We have, however, just glanced at the article headed "the last debate on Kandahar" and have stumbled upon the following passages:

The members of the Governor-General's Council are officials who draw very high salaries, but to suppose that any special value attaches to their opinion on questions of Afghan policy is to betray an entire ignorance of the constitution of the Council to which they belong. The members of the Council who, at present, most vehemently object to the abandonment ofKandahar are Mr. RiversThompson, Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Whitley Stokes. All these are very worthy and quite common-place individuals, but they have no claim to be listened to with deference to the question of what our policy should be in Afghanistan. They were nominated members of the Governor-General's Council—Mr. Rivers Thompson because of his knowledge of Lower Bengal and Burmah, Mr. Gibbs to represent the needs of the Bombay Presidency,and Mr. Whitley Stokes as legislative member—but outside of their own special departments, no exceptional weight attaches to any opinions they my please to express Another gentleman on whose support the Opposition largely relied in this debate is Sir Richard Temple. Poor Sir Richard! An official career of quite inexplicable prosperity was marred just as he seemed to have within his grasp the highest prize of all. Sir Richard made the unfortunate mistake of supposing that Jingoism would live fore ever—or at any rate, for his time—so he cast overboard the professions, of a lifetime,separated himself from the men of the Lawrence "school" in which he bade been brought of, and stood for East Worcestershire on a Tory platform. Nothing now remains for the luckless Sir Richard except to make the best of a bad job, and stand boldly by the opinions which, in an evil hour, he adopted. But Conservative speakers revel only the weakness of their case when they lay such special ess upon Sir Richard Temple's disinterested conversion-

To speak of the way in which the *Statesman* does of the members of the Governor-General's Council is irreverent, if not worse. They are the responsible guardians of India, and they have therefore every right to speak and write about Kandahar as about any thing else within the scope of their deliberations.

A DEPUTATION of a Society in England, which calls itself the General Council of Education in India headed by Lord Halifax waited upon the Marquis of Hartington. Lord Halifax in introducing the deputation said that "he had taken the deepest interest in the question of Education in India during the last fifty years. He was sorry to say that during the whole of that period very little had been done by the Government in the diection of educating the great mass of the people of India although some steps had been taken with a view of affording the upper classes of that country a higher grade of education. One great difficulty that stood in the way of giving more general elementary education to the people was the danger of raising the suspicion that by means of schools we were desirous of Christianising the people. As President of the Board of Cotrol, he had, with the assistance of Lord Northbrook and other directors of the Board, framed the despatch of 1854, which was intended to provide for the elementary education of the people by means of a system of grants-in-aid. That system had worked well, although he was aware that it had not been so fully carried out as was contemplated by the framers of that despatch, and he thought that the best thing that could be done was to extend the principle of that system as far as possible." Lord Hartington returned a courteous reply to the Deputation. His Lordship said:

He was glad to hear from His Lordship that there was no intention in the minds of those forming the deputation to urge upon the Government of India any change in the system of Education in that country with the view of encouraging religious proselytism, because the Government were pledged to the Indian people not to interfere with their religious opinions or convictions in any way. He could not help feeling that any proposed change that raised the slightest suspicion in the minds of the people of India in that matter, would necessarily, and perhaps not unnaturally, be met with the strongest opposition in that country.

His Lordship then continued:

Not having been able to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the whole subject he should on the present occasion be able to make merely a few general observations with regard to it. Reference had been made to the despatch of 1854. That document had always been accepted as the basis of the character of the educational system in India, and he believed that it had been the sincere desire of every successive Government since that time, both here and in India, to adhere to the lines laid down in it. It might be that the actual development of the principles it was based upon, had not been carried as far as Lord Halifax had originally intended, and it might be that the Government of India had continued to devote a large portion of the funds at its disposal for the purposes of education to the encouragement rather of higher than of elementary education. That might be partly caused by the fact that those who had the direction of education in India, were mostly men from our English Universities, who naturally would have a tendency in favour of higher education. Native opinion in India however, was also strongly in favor of higher education. A very small portion of the population of India took any interest whatever in the subject of education, and that which did, preferred the higher education. This preference was not confined to the richer classes, but extended to the middle, and even to a portion of the poorer classes. Any change that would deprive Natives having that preference from the opportunity of obtaining higher education would certainly be most unpopular in India. He did not say that that was any conclusive reason why the principles contained in the despatch of 1854 should not be reverted to more strictly; but it was a strong reason why we should proceed in any changes which were to be introduced into the edcational system of that country with very great caution, lest those changes should have the effect of diminishing the interest which the people of India took in education or of in disposing them to avail themselves of the advantages it offered. What had been done in the matter had, at all events, had this one good result—that it had interested a large number of the most influential persons in India in the cause of Indian education, and without their assistance and co-operation it would be hopeless to attempt to introduce education among the masses of the people. With reference to the system of grants-in-aid, he thought that as we had been obliged to adopt a wider and different system of education here so it might be necessary to introduce a change in the Indian system of education in that respect also. The whole subject, however, would receive the full consideration of the Government of India. He did not think that the form of inquiry suggested by the Memorialist would be efficient,and if it were necessary to make any further inquiry into the subject, its form would have to be considered with great care, although it must be remembered that the India Office had rather too much than too little information on all these subjects. The suggestion of the deputation which had been so ably and so temperately laid before him, should be laid before the Indian Government, and he was sure that they would meet with the most careful consideration.

We reserve remarks till a future issue.

AS A member of the Education Department of Bengal Mr. Roper Lethbridge has been for some time very usefully employed in improving the school literature of the country. The first transition from such effete works as Mivart's Spelling and Thomas Dice was made some sixty years ago, through the exertions of the Calcutta School-Book Society. The series of Primers and Readers they produced were well adapted for the

people of India, and it would not be too much to say that for forty years the great bulk of the English-speaking people of Bengal acquired the elements of the English language through the medium of that series. The great changes made of late years in the mode of teaching and the requirements of the University Examinations necessitated changes and improvements in the text-books in use, and Mr. Lethbridge was one of the first to come to the fore, and supply the needful. His two "Selections" are admirable in every respect, and for the last ten or twelve years have been the leading text-books in our schools. His Histories of India and of Bengal were also great improvements on their predecessors, and enjoyed well-deserved popularity everywhere. It was urged by some that the Histories were objectionable on the score of their containing too many names and dates and figures within a very small compass, and thereby appealing too much to the memory and too little to the understanding of the readers. The nature of University examinations, however, rendered this objectionable trait unavoidable. All competitive examinations imply cram, and books compiled to help students in passing such examinations, must necessarily bear marks of the crammer, or they would be useless. In the work which Mr. Lethbridge has just published he has, however, tried to avoid this defect. He dwells more on facts and descriptions than on names and dates, and appeals more to the understanding than to memory. The book is entitled "A Short Manual of the History of India," and "short" it certainly is; for the whole of the history from the conquest of India by the Aryan Hindus to the close of Lord Northbrook's reign is compressed within the compass of 180 12mo pages. And yet to the credit of the author it must be added that within this limited space he has given cameos of all the salient features of Indian history; and there is scarcely a subject of importance which he has altogether omitted. In fact his object seems to have been to put together all that an intelligent reader cares to remember after reading the works of Mill, Thornton and others, and he has been very successful in the attempt. The school-boy who will digest all that has been given in the book will know all that 99 out of every 100 men need know of the history of the country. The manner too in which the facts have been marshalled is specially worthy of note. There is no attempt at fine writing,—no elaborate sentences and well-turned periods. The language used is simple, and so set as to bring out in prominent relief the main points of the subject. In other words each topic is made into a cameo, which to see is to understand. The book is prefaced by an account of "India as it is," giving very succinct descriptions "of the soil, climate, and productions; the people, their races, religions, public works, and industries; the civil services, and system of administration." It extends to 136 pages, and contains a large mass of useful information. Authors of school-books cannot pretend to originality; they must necessarily indent on others for their facts. Their's must be compilations from, or *rechauffes* of, the works of scholars; and yet the task of getting up really good school-books is not easy. Great tact is necessary to adapt one-self to the condition of the juvenile mind, and to think and write in a style suited to it. Much judgment has to be exercised in selecting the wheat and rejecting the chaff; and it is a work of consi derable ability to set the wheat before boys in such a manner as to interest them; and in all these respects Mr. Lethbridge has shown his fitness for the work he had undertaken. In matters connected with ancient Indian history, in which many things are abundantly and widely uncertain, dogmatic teaching cannot but be misleading, and in this respect several statements in the prefatory chapter might appear objectionable; but it is exceedingly difficult to avoid dogmatism in school primers, and if Mr. Lethbridge has not always been able to surmount the difficulty, he has, it seems, generally copied the opinions of the leading European orientalists of the day.

WE ARE requested to make room for the following:

"NATIONAL CLUB.—The New year's all Gymnasts' gathering in connection with the Club was held on Saturday last, the 30th ultimo, on the approach of eve. There were upwards of two thousand young men present on the occasion. For the first time in Bengal a little Hindu girl rode through the preliminary exercises on a horse.

We give the paragraph as we have received it.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN GENERAL DEBILITY.—In cases of Debility and Defective Nutrition, the use of this celebrated Oil has been attended with remarkably beneficial results. Rewland Dalton, Esq., District Medical Officer, Bury St. Edmunds, writes:—"In giving my opinion of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, I have no hesitation in saying that I have not the slightest confidence in any other kind. The effects of Dr. de Jongh's Oil are sure and most remarkable, especially in that broken-down state of health and strength which usually precedes and favours tubercular deposit; and I never recommend any other sort. The Oil I have had from you was for my own use, and it has certainly been the only means of saving my life on two occasions; and even now, when I feel 'out of condition,' I take it, and like it, unmixed with anything, as being the most agreeable way. I could wish that Dr. de Jongh's Oil would come into general use, and entirely supersede the Pale and other worthless preparations." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists, and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah, Street, Calcutta.

☞ Beware of other worthless imitations.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 30th April, 1881.

The dullness which hitherto prevailed over commercial markets has somewhat been removed by the introduction of a series of transactions which took place chiefly in Imports.

Piece-Goods. This market has decidedly shown some improvement and about ten thousands packages found buyers during the period under review, but at prices and terms entirely in favor of those who have bought them. One of the largest importing firms we are told has sold a considerable quantity at great sacrificing rates which have caused some sensation in the mercantile circle.

Yarns have also met with some enquiry and transactions took place but not without concessions in prices and terms of delivery.

Exports.—Nothing of importance has transpired in this market, there have been small transactions in oil-seeds, grain and jute—almost at previous rates.

Rice.—About 4000 bags of two maunds each of the following qualities found buyers at the rates quoted below:

Table seeta	...	...	3 3
Ballam	...	...	1 12 to 2 1
Kheeare	...	...	1 6 „ 1 12
Kazla	...	...	1 5 „ 1 8
Raree	...	...	1 8 „ 1 14

The Bank of Bengal made no change in the rates of interest or discount. Yet the trade has experienced some difficulty in discounting Hoondies.

Government Securities have met with an indifferent demand and prices after fluctuation ruled at the close as follow:

4%	...	...	102 2 % 102 3
4½%	...	...	109 10

Joint-stock Shares.—This market has throughout the week been inactive and prices for stocks in general have suffered a decline.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
J. H. Reily, Esq., Barrisaul	4	0	0
Satkhira Public Library	13	4	0
Pundit Bishen Dass, Kulachi	6	10	0
Secretary Julsai, Taijib, Lucknow	13	4	0
Secretary Mayaveram Reading Club	3	5	0
S. D. Harney Esq., Debrooghur	3	0	0
A. Narasim Iyenger Esq, Ootacamund	13	4	0
Hon'ble Syud Ahmed Khan Bahadur, Aligarh	7	0	0
Babu Krishtochunder Das, Sarun, Chuprah	13	0	6
„ Anathnath Mookerjee, Ramkistopore	10	0	0
„ Radhicaprosad Chuckerbutty, Jirat Bolagore	10	0	0
„ Komalkrishna Das, Mean-Mear	20	0	0
„ Bhoopendra Nath Roy, Shekerhat, Jessore	6	10	0
„ Kallychurn Sen, Kyouk Phayoo	10	0	0
„ Tarucknath Mullick, Davigunge	13	4	0
„ Hemchunder Banerjee, Muddehpore	3	5	0
„ Hemchunder Gossain, Serampore	13	4	0
„ Hurrynarain Roy, Sherepore	13	4	0
„ Hemchunder Banerjee, Durbhangah	13	4	0
„ Umbikachurn Chatterjee, Barrisaul	6	10	0
„ Beresar Sen, Langla	6	0	0
„ Kallyprosunno Ghose, Joydevpore	12	8	0
„ Soseevoosun Sen, Korigram	13	4	0
„ Grindernath Pandey, Bhagulpore	6	10	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*April* 27, 1881.

GENERAL.—Baboo Gobind Mohun Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Dupnty Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to Durbhanga.

This cancels the orders of the 2nd instant transferring Baboo Gouri Sunker Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore to Durbhanga.

Baboo Bhoirub Nath Palit, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, on leave is transferred to Rungpore.

Baboo Rajendro Nath Ghose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigore, is appointed to act as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, *vice* Baboo Ramnarain Banerjee, on leave.

Mr. B. L. Gupta, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted temporarily to Dinagpore.

Mr. S. S. Jones, Assistant Commissioner, Rajmehal, Southal Pergunahs, is appointed to have charge of the Deoghur division of that district.

Mr. E. B. Harris, Assistant Magistrate and Collector Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed to have charge of the Rajmehal division of that district.

Baboo Tarini Sunker Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Dputy Collector, Dacca, on leave, is transferred to Tipperah.

The following officers are appointed to act, until further orders, as Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors of the First Grade, with effect from the dates mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr. H. M. Tobin,	from the	14th	March 1881.
„ G. A. Grierson	„	29	„ „
„ G. Godfrey	„	31st	„ „
„ A. W. Meckie, „ E. R. Henry	„	4th April	„
„ G. E. Manisty, „ C. M. W. Brett	„	9th	„ „

The following officers are appointed to act, until further orders, as Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors of the Second Grade, with effect from the dates mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr. H. A. D. Philips,	from the	14th	March 1881.
„ E. B. Taylor	„	29th	„ „
„ R. Carstairs	„	31st	„ „
„ D. Norton, „ A. E. Stately	„	4th April	„
„ H. Farrer	„	5th	„ „
„ B. De, „ F. E. Pargiter	„	9th	„ „

Mr. F. H. Harding, C. S., reported his departure from India on special leave, on the 12th instant.

Baboo Chunder Seekar Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Patuakhally division of the Backergunge district, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that sub-division.

Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarkar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Fenny River division of the Noakhally district, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Shama Churn Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakhally, is appointed to have charge of the Fenny River division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarkar, or until further orders.

Baboo Troyluckho Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Moonsheegunge division of the Dacca district, is allowed leave for 15 days, under the rules in chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Khagendro Nath Mitter, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Moonsheegunge division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Troyluckho Nath Sen, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

The services of Baboo Kumud Nath Mookerjee, temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the census Commissioner for employment on special duty.

Baboo Hur Kishen Das, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is transferred to Pooree.

Advertisements.

Notice.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Stray vols. of the Weekly Reporter in decent order at a reasonable price.

FOR SALE.—Tagore Law Lectures; Hindu Law 2 vols. by Herbert Cowell, Rs 18. Hyde's Reports 1864, Rs. 8 Baillies Mahomedan Law Haniffea. Rs. 14. Clarke's Bengal Regulations, 3 vols. Rs. 25, do. Madras and Bomba-Regs. and Acts 2 vols. Rs. 2 each. Harrington's Annaylysis of Bengal Regulations 3 vols. Rs. 25.

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CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

Tenders are invited for the carrying out by contract the conservancy work of the bustees in the Town of Calcutta ward by ward under the following conditions :—

1*st*.—All filth, house refuse and rubbish accruing from day to day to be removed within 24 hours to the nearest refuse platform along Circular Road, and then loaded into Railway waggons, or to site of such tank in the vicinity as may at the time have to be filled up and then spread and levelled.

2*nd*.—All old accumulations of refuse to be removed within one month after signing of contract to the satisfaction of the Commissioners.

3*rd*.—The refuse to be removed in carts of similar description to those now used by the Conservancy Department, or as may be approved of by the Commissioner.

4*th*.—All surface drains to be swept and flushed daily, and in cases where underground drainage exists, the gully-pits, pit-traps and other such adjuncts to be examined and cleaned once every week, and the silt removed in carts or spread on low lands within the bustee, as may be directed by the Road Superintendent.

5*th*.—All carts, cattle, tools and implements to be supplied by the contractor.

6*th*.—Parties tendering to state what forces in labor and carriage they intend to employ and the date on which they will be prepared to commence work. Contractors will be expected to execute a binding contract for the proper peformance of their work.

7*th*.—All farther particulars to be had on application to the Engineer to the Corporation.

8*th*.—Tenders are to be addressed under sealed covers to the Engineer to the Corporation who will receive them up to noon of the 11th May 1881. Each cover to be superscribed "Tender for Bustee Conservancy."

JAMES KIMBER, C. E.,
Engineer to the Corporation.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given to the Shareholders that the Directors have, under rule 6 of the Articles of Association, made the third call of one Rupee per share payable on or before the 15th day of June next.

Bengal Banking Corporation Ld.
No. 7 Old Post Office Street
Calcutta the 28th April, 1881.

By order of the Directors
BHOOBUNMOHUN DUTT,
Secretary.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Receiver appointed in suit No. 92 of 1880 wherein Bepin Behary Dhur is plaintiff and Buhko Behary Dhur and others are defendants in the Registrar's sale room on the middle floor of the Court House on Saturday the 21st day of May next at the hour of 12 o'clock at noon pursuant to orders made in the above cause dated respectively 9th September 1880 and 17th March 1881 the following properties—

Lot No. 1.—All that upper roomed brick-built message tenement or dwelling-house with the piece or parcel of land thereto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation seven cottahs and twelve feet more or less situate lying and being No. 44 but formerly No. 25 Mullungah Lane in the Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded in the manner following namely, on the north by Obhoy Haldar's Lane, on the south by bye-Lane and partly by the tenanted House of late Ramdhone Doss and partly by the house and premises of Bindoo madhub Bannerjee, on the east by the dwelling-house of Jogoolalla Dobey and on the west by Mollungah Lane.

Lot No. 2.—All that upper roomed brick-built dwelling-house and the piece or parcel of land thereto belonging on which the same is erected and built containing by estimation one cottah and ten chittacks more or less situate lying and being No. 15 Wellington Street in Calcutta and butted as follows—on the north by a Lane called Sreenath Doss' Lane, on the south by the house of Kadar Nath Patra, on the east by Wellington Street and on the west by a Lane called Lallbehary Thakoor's Lane.

The conditions of sale and abstract of title may be seen at the office of Mr. James Heckle, Attorney for the plaintiff at No. 3 Fancy Lane Calcutta on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

R. BELCHAMBERS,
Receiver.

J. HECKLE,
Plaintiff's Attorney,
Calcutta, High Court, Original Jurisdiction.
The 7th April, 1881.

JUST PUBLISHED.

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BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with Section 5 of Act V of 1854 a General Meeting of Proprietors will be held on Wednesday the 11th instant, at noon, for the inspection of accounts for the half year ended 30th April last the declaration of a Dividend, the election of Directors in the room of Baboo Tarineychurn Bhose and A. B. Sutherland Esquire who go out by rotation, but offer themselves for reelection, and in the room of the Hon'ble G. F. Mewburn. proceeded to Europe ; and for the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

CALCUTTA,
2nd May 1881.

H. W. I. WOOD,
Secretary.

ZOEDONE.

THE Indian Zoedone Company Limited will shortly import into this Presidency pending the completion of arrangements to manufacture it on the spot. The celebrated non-alcoholic tonic beverage ZOEDONE, the consumption of which in Europe is already enormous. Further and more detailed advertisements will shortly appear, meanwhile attention is directed to this valuable preparation as being in the highest degree suitable for India.

ZOEDONE. A delicious sparkling beverage for daily use.

ZOEDONE is exhilarating, yet non-alcoholic.

ZOEDONE may be taken continuously as a substitute for alcoholic liquors with the most beneficial results.

ZOEDONE is refreshing, stimulating and invigorating.

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ZOEDONE contains all the essential constituents of the blood, the brain, and nerve tissue.

ZOEDONE—For diminished vitality.

ZOEDONE For nervous exhaustion.

ZOEDONE—For supplying nerve force.

ZOEDONE—For brain exhaustion from over study.

ZOEDONE—When the system is below par and require building up.

ZOEDONE—Dr. G. S. Ranking, Surgeon, Indian Medical Department writes of it thus :—I am of opinion that in Zoedone is to be found a complete solution of the problem, which has long exercised the minds of the medical profession in India viz., the discovery of a beverage which shall assuage thirst, restore nervous waste, and while being palatable, be also non-alcoholic. It is my firm conviction that if Zoedone be introduced into India it will meet all the requirements of those who wish to restore their nervous systems without impairing their livers.

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ZOEDONE is stimulating.

ZOEDONE is nutritive.

ZOEDONE may be drunk by persons of every age and at all times.

ZOEDONE will keep good after being opened, retains its sparkling qualities to the last.

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ZOEDONE.—Due notice will shortly be given where and in what towns Zoedone may be obtained.

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The Diseases of the Chest, and the Consumption reputed incurable to this day will find an almost certain remedy in GRIMAULT &Co.'s Syrup of Hypophosphite of Lime; Asthma, Bronchitis, the different types of Cough, never resist to its salutary influence.

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	1871-74.	1876-79,
New Assurances ...	£3,204,135	£3,998,880
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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS No 108, BARANUSSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA